

20010504.qrp v02_n179.qrl.20010504

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 19:03:08 EDT

From: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: QRP-L digest 2179

QRP-L Digest 2179

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) [97598] Re: Battery cable - a query
by "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
- 2) [97599] Part II of "You must stop me NOW! I need some intervention here!"
by nilsbull@juno.com
- 3) [97600] Re: Cost/Benefit Analysis of Iambic Paddle
by "Patrick McVey" <mcveyp.MOHAVE@narbha.com>
- 4) [97601] MixW multimode soundcard software
by "Jim" <sunwatt@starband.net>
- 5) [97602] RE: the 2\$ gallon!
by "Hare,Ed, W1RFI" <w1rfi@arrl.org>
- 6) [97603] RE: the 2\$ gallon!
by "Hare,Ed, W1RFI" <w1rfi@arrl.org>
- 7) [97604] Re: [CONTEST] QRP Contest Calendar - May 2001
by "Ed Nelson" <edxnelson@home.com>
- 8) [97605] RE: the 2\$ gallon!
by n2go@arrl.net
- 9) [97606] RE: the 2\$ gallon!
by Dave Fouchey <dafouchey@home.com>
- 10) [97607] Re: Battery cable - a query
by bob evinger <wd9eka@arrl.net>
- 11) [97608] Re: Fw: Re: Cost/Benefit Analysis of Iambic Paddle
by Mark Dulcey <mark@buttery.org>
- 12) [97609] Re: the 2\$ gallon!
by "Bob Hightower" <nk7m@extremezone.com>
- 13) [97610] Re: Battery cable - a query
by "Bob Hightower" <nk7m@extremezone.com>
- 14) [97611] e-mail address change-again
by "Floyd Smithberg" <nq7x@earthlink.net>
- 15) [97612] Re: Bending aluminum
by "Denis Englander" <ko6gfs@slip.net>
- 16) [97613] Re: the 2\$ gallon!
by "Steve Sorrell" <ap036@detroit.freenet.org>
- 17) [97614] Help, I've nothing to build!
by John Payne <paynej1@tnni.net>
- 18) [97615] Re: Help, I've nothing to build!
by tailfeathers@juno.com
- 19) [97616] [97540] RE: DDS VFO instead of a crystal

- by Dan Tayloe <dtayloe@home.com>
- 20) [97617] RE: Battery cable - a query
by "Brian B. Riley, N1BQ" <n1bq@wulfdn.org>
- 21) [97618] RE: Battery cable - a query
by "Brian B. Riley, N1BQ" <n1bq@wulfdn.org>
- 22) [97619] Re: [97540] RE: DDS VFO instead of a crystal
by Paul Kiciak <pkiciak@att.net>
- 23) [97620] Re: Battery cable - a query
by "Dave Dabay" <kd3pc@mindspring.com>
- 24) [97621] RE: the 2\$ gallon!
by "Lofstead, Jerry" <Jerry.Lofstead@itb.mckhboc.com>
- 25) [97622] Last notice for my snipe hunt
by "Doyle, Ronald D" <RD130947@exchange.DAYTONOH.NCR.com>
- 26) [97623] N8we Maritime Mobile or Portable?
by N0BN@aol.com
- 27) [97624] RE: Battery cable - a query
by "Brian B. Riley, N1BQ" <n1bq@wulfdn.org>
- 28) [97625] Re: the \$2 gallon
by Harris Keith E CONT CNIN <harris_k@crane.navy.mil>
- 29) [97626] Re: the \$2 gallon
by "Steve Sorrell" <ap036@detroit.freenet.org>
- 30) [97627] Re: Help, I've nothing to build!
by Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
- 31) [97628] CONTEST:
by Shepherd@aol.com
- 32) [97629] Re: N8we Maritime Mobile or Portable?
by "Mike WA8BXN" <hubby2k@hotmail.com>
- 33) [97630] Re: Help, I've nothing to build!
by "Bob Duckworth" <wb4mnf@atl.org>
- 34) [97631] Re: N8we Maritime Mobile or Portable?
by "JOSEPH PIRKLE" <ad4ih@worldnet.att.net>
- 35) [97632] Re: tiny 9-V transceivers?
by Bill Coleman <aa4lr@arrl.net>
- 36) [97633] Re: the \$2 gallon
by "Dan W. Dooley" <dandooley@pipeline.com>
- 37) [97634] Re: the \$2 gallon
by <baltimoremd@baltimoremd.com>
- 38) [97635] Re: the \$2 gallon
by "Robert C. Shelton, Jr" <rsc@goes.com>
- 39) [97636] Re: Pixie2 on 20m
by Charlie Panek <charlie_paneke@agilent.com>
- 40) [97637] WTB: SW40/SW40+/40-40 xcvr
by agtaylor@llnl.gov
- 41) [97638] Re: Help, I've nothing to build!
by Dan Presley <talljazz@teleport.com>
- 42) [97639] FS: Test Equipment
by "Phinizy, William" <wphinizy@filenet.com>
- 43) [97640] Why do QRPers Build?

by "Doug Hendricks" <ki6ds@dph.dpol.net>
44) [97641] FS: Test Equipment (HP scope sold)
by "Phinizy, William" <wphinizy@filenet.com>
45) [97642] RE: Why do QRPers Build?
by <schoon@amgt.com>
46) [97643] Re: Why do QRPers Build?
by "Mark J. Dulcey" <mark@buttery.org>
47) [97644] Re: Why do QRPers Build?
by "Brian" <bmurrey@amexol.net>
48) [97645] Re: Help, I've nothing to build!
by tailfeathers@juno.com
49) [97646] Re: Why do QRPers Build?
by "Doug Hendricks" <ki6ds@dph.dpol.net>
50) [97647] RE: Why do QRPers Build?
by "Randall M. Payne" <payner1@tnni.net>
51) [97648] Re: Why do QRPers Build?
by "Phinizy, William" <wphinizy@filenet.com>
52) [97649] Re: Why do QRPers Build?
by dmaliniak@penton.com
53) [97650] Re: Why do QRPers Build?
by "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
54) [97651] WTB: Bencher iambic paddle or similar in good condition
by "Rick Austin" <rick@ltcable.com>
55) [97652] hw-8 capacitor
by "Delbert Long" <ad6we@hotmail.com>
56) [97653] Re: Cost/Benefit Analysis of Iambic Paddle
by muglesto@ecentral.com
57) [97654] Re: Why do QRPers Build?
by "Bruce Kizerian" <kizerian@ced.utah.edu>
58) [97655] RE: Why do QRPers Build?
by <schoon@amgt.com>
59) [97656] Re: Cost/Benefit Analysis of Iambic Paddle
by Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
60) [97657] Re: Why do QRPers Build?
by Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
61) [97658] Re: Why do QRPers Build?
by "Brian" <bmurrey@amexol.net>
62) [97659] Re: Help, I've nothing to build!
by Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
63) [97660] Portable and Mobile and Bears OH MY!
by "Paul R. Valko" <prvalko@oakland.edu>
64) [97661] Re: N8we Maritime Mobile or Portable?
by Gary Wilcox <rgwilcox@bellsouth.net>
65) [97662] RE: N8we Maritime Mobile or Portable?
by "Charles Mabbott" <crmabbott@mediaone.net>
66) [97663] Re: N8we Maritime Mobile or Portable?
by "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
67) [97664] Re: Maritime Mobile or Portable?

by Paul Womble <pwomble1@tampabay.rr.com>
68) [97665] Re: tiny 9-V transceivers?
by Larry Cahoon <lejek@erols.com>
69) [97666] Re: the \$2 gallon
by "Carlos Caro" <cjcaro35@hotmail.com>
70) [97667] RE: Help, I've nothing to build!
by Nick Kennedy <nkennedy@tcainet.net>
71) [97668] RE: Tuna Tin II: JayBob has his act together--Thanks Uncle Brucie!!
by "Jay Bromley" <w5jay@alltel.net>
72) [97669] QRPTTF Pictures
by "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
73) [97670] Contest: QRPDUPE CQ WPX Version Posted
by Brian Kassel <bkassel@dancris.com>
74) [97671] Snipe Hunt Results - KF8JW
by PTSMANTUA@aol.com
75) [97672] Re: [97540] RE: DDS VFO instead of a crystal
by "laura halliday" <marsgal42@hotmail.com>
76) [97673] Re: Why do QRPers Build? <K2>
by "Eric Swartz - WA6HHQ, Elecraft" <eric@elecraft.com>
77) [97674] Re: Help, I've nothing to build!
by "Don Wilhelm" <w3fpr@arrl.net>
78) [97675] RE: Why do QRPers Build?
by Bruce Rattray <rattray@gpfn.sk.ca>
79) [97676] Re: Snipe Hunt Results - KF8JW
by "Brian Murrey" <bmmurrey@amexol.net>

Date: Thu, 3 May 2001 17:15:08 -0600 (MDT)
From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
To: John Nall <nally@talstar.com>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97598] Re: Battery cable - a query
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.33.0105031712590.1784-100000@localhost.localdomain>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Why use a 2kw inverter? Your rig draws small power at 12 vdc and you can rig simple 12 vdc lighting in the ham shack. I wonder why an inverter.

On Thu, 3 May 2001, John Nall wrote:

> I'm doing a project involving solar panels and batteries, for emergency
> power for my ham station. Part of the project involves using a Heart
> 2000-watt inverter for converting DC to AC. The instructions for the
> inverter specify that heavy duty battery cable be used for hooking it up.

>
> Now...battery cable at an auto parts store is pretty expensive. I notice
> that Home Depot carries what appears to be pretty heavy duty copper cable in
> their electrical department, and I would assume that heavy duty copper cable
> is heavy duty copper cable, no matter what the name.
>
> However....the reason for this query...I have been known to get in trouble
> for my "assumptions" in the past :-) So would ask if anyone knows anything
> special about battery cable to distinguish it from the Home Depot stuff? Or
> is my assumption correct?
>
> Thanks,
>
> John AF4WM
>
>

--

Yours Truly,

- Karl F. Larsen, k5di@arrl.net (505) 524-3303 -

Date: Thu, 3 May 2001 18:27:41 +0000
From: nilsbull@juno.com
To: QRP-L@lehigh.edu
Subject: [97599] Part II of "You must stop me NOW! I need some intervention here!"
Message-ID: <20010503.182819.-13293.1.nilsbull@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

[Qagucin character set],

There are a whole herd of national coinages due to be finished off when the Euro becomes the currency of the realm in 2002. At least them Norwegians ain't fallin' for that socialistic nonsense! The last guilder you can buy online. But that's not the deal here . . .

Remember when I said I had an old Korean War VHF transceiver box what I'd gutted & was plannin' to use ifn the dial illuminatin' stuff weren't radioactive? Well, it ain't. So now, after considering how big an Altoids tin is (3.25x2.36 INCHES ['cause we ain't goin' metric jus' 'cuz them Yoo-ro-peans says we otter! Thank you, Ron!]) and how big the useable front panel space is on this old green box (4.5x2.75 INCHES!) and figurin' that I ain't gettin' no IN-TUR-VEN-CHIN here (!), I might just

get real crazy at Dayton & get two radio kits.

That's right! Two kit what'll drive them orderlies nuts when I start meltin' slobber & slingin' abusive language around the room! Two of 'em!

Why, I could put a fancy pants superhet radio in the green box & still drive 'em nuts with a couple Altoid boxes full of entirely autnomouse other radio doodads. Like that FOXX3 & a home brew tuner & an Altoids tin full of AAA-size Ni-MH cells what was made in China by them GOOD Commies (not like them BAD Commies in Cuber {!} even if they ain't got one of our planes what was lookin' in the windows tryin' to see what they was puttin' in them little plastic toys they hand out at McDonalds).

But then I'd have 16 radios in this here room and I'm runnin' out of broken leather straps to tack 'em to these soft spongy walls with! And them badgers still get lookin' cuter every day! I tell you! If I see one more spandex camisole top what belonged to somebadger's little sister's Barbie-doll collection sashayin' down the beach in the evenin' sunlight reflectin' off the columns of the Acropolis (which I saw oncet & am now obsessed with almost as much as badgers in sundresses [Thank you Ron!]), I'm gonna go stark ravin' full-tilt-bozo flat-plumb-outta my yurt here on the foothills of the Altai mountains where the Talas river flows out toward Yarkand CRAZZZY!

And you sissy-fied, lilly-livered, porcupine-pettin' bunch of cracker croakers won't be able to do ANYTHING about it, even if you do convince them know-nothin' academics in Langley, Verginny to force good American cheese-otter eatin' citizens to use the metric system!

So there!

73

Nils

. . . I'm taking suggestions on what otter go in the green box . . . not that I'm gonna listen to 'em, mind you . . .

Nils R. Bull Young -- El Gringo Errante -- La Estancia de los Guajolotes Sonrientes

<http://w8ijn.www6.50megs.com> -- W8IJN --

<http://members.fortunecity.com/nilsbull>

"In MY day we FIGHT to have earphones! Every DAY was STRUGGLE!"

-- Comrade Nikolai Sergeievich McTovarishov, 19

Oct 1917

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<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Thu, 03 May 2001 15:30:33 -0700
From: "Patrick McVey" <mcvey@norbha.com>
To: <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>, <rick@ltcable.com>
Subject: [97600] Re: Cost/Benefit Analysis of Iambic Paddle
Message-ID: <saf1880f.061@mail.norbha.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable
Content-Disposition: inline

Rick,
I recently went thru this same quandary. I met a person on this list who =
sold me a set of MFJ iambic paddles. I got a great deal and I love the =
paddles. But being addicted to kit buildin, I popped for the Ft. Smith =
paddle keyer (\$12 smackeroots). The paddles are made from pieces of copper =
clad board and the keyer is a TiCK v1 (upgradeable later if ya want). Man! =
These are great, the feel can be made quite sensitive. However, you've got =
to build them. The instructions are very detailed. I wished I'd of known =
about them before. Its a great set of paddles (and keyer) for the budget =
minded, just-starting-out CW'er. The profits go toward supporting Ft. =
Smith ham radio endeavors. I ended up giving the built unit to a friend =
who wants to take the 5wpm & Tech exam. As part of the set, I included my =
old Ziliak tapes and Chuck Adams-K7QO iambic tutorial.
Hope this whets your enthusiasm,
Patrick, KC7AIR

Date: Thu, 3 May 2001 18:44:43 -0500
From: "Jim" <sunwatt@starband.net>
To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [97601] MixW multimode soundcard software
Message-ID: <003701c0d42b\$0e6116e0\$9a354794@computer>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Just downloaded the new version 2.0 of MixW this morning. This software has
just about every mode you can think of built in.

<http://tav.kiev.ua/~nick/mixw2/MixW2rc1.htm>

This afternoon I worked S570JS, and EC7AAC with 1w on 15M psk31.

Its got BPSK, QPSK, RTTY, MFSK, Hell, Throb, Amtor, and packet. It will RX Pactor. Its got CW, also so I guess it will send CW via keyboard if you like to do that.

72's de Jim KJ5TF

Date: Thu, 3 May 2001 19:44:23 -0400
From: "Hare,Ed, W1RFI" <w1rfi@arrl.org>
To: "'Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion'" <qrp-1@Lehigh.edu>
Subject: [97602] RE: the 2\$ gallon!
Message-ID: <125490A005E3D3118C9C00805FC743CC023B2D04@KAHLESS>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

> It's a huge deal if you have a 9 gallon head trying to get into a Texas 10 gallon hat.

The Yankee version of that one involves 10 pounds of weight and a 9-pound bag...

73,
Ed Hare, W1RFI
ARRL Laboratory Supervisor
225 Main St
Newington, CT 06111
Tel: 860-594-0318
FAX: 860-594-0259
Internet: w1rfi@arrl.org
ARRL Web: <http://www.arrl.org>
ARRL Technical Information Service: <http://www.arrl.org/tis/>

-----Original Message-----
From: Brian Murrey [mailto:bmurrey@amexol.net]
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2001 5:49 PM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Re: the 2\$ gallon!

I know. I've BEEN THERE.

72

----- Original Message -----

From: "Ted Williams" <ted@g0ull.fsnet.co.uk>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2001 2:30 PM
Subject: Re: the 2\$ gallon!

> No, Mel.
>
> The US gallon is only 0.83 times an Imperial gallon, so that a 10 gallon
> Texas hat is only 8.3 real gallons, which is really no big deal ;-)
>
> Ted g0ull
>
>

Date: Thu, 3 May 2001 19:45:36 -0400
From: "Hare,Ed, W1RFI" <w1rfi@arrl.org>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97603] RE: the 2\$ gallon!
Message-ID: <125490A005E3D3118C9C00805FC743CC023B2D05@KAHLESS>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"

I know years back we worried that they were going to run out of 50-cent a
gallon gasoline. They have run out of 50-cent a gallon gasoline; all we
have left around here is \$1.75 a gallon gasoline. :-)

73,
Ed Hare, W1RFI

Date: Thu, 3 May 2001 19:51:16 -0400
From: "Ed Nelson" <edxnelson@home.com>
To: <N2CQ@citnet.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97604] Re: [CONTEST] QRP Contest Calendar - May 2001
Message-ID: <020601c0d42b\$f1ee9180\$2c490b18@trntn1.nj.home.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I need help. My husband Edward S. Nelson died on April 3rd. Can you please remove his name from your group mailing list. I get over a hundred e-mails daily. Thanks. Mary Ann Nelson

----- Original Message -----

From: "Ken Newman" <N2CQ@citnet.com>

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2001 3:52 PM

Subject: [CONTEST] QRP Contest Calendar - May 2001

>
>
> ~~~~~
>
> QRP CONTEST CALENDAR
>
> May 2001
>
> ~~~~~
>
> AGCW DL QRP Party (CW) ... QRP Contest!
>
> May 1 -1300z to 1900z
>
> Rules: <http://home.online.no/~jana1me/htmlrules/agcwmay.html>
>
> European only QSO party"
>
> ~~~~~
>
> MARAC County Hunters Contest (CW/SSB)
>
> May 5 - 0000z to May 6 - 2400z
>
> Rules: <http://www.sk3bg.se/contest/maracchc.htm>
>
> "Mobile Stations everywhere"
>
> ~~~~~
>
> Ten-Ten International Spring QSO Party (CW) ... QRP Category
>
> May 5 - 0001z to May 6 - 2400z
>
> Rules: <http://listserv.lehigh.edu/lists/tenten-1/rules.html>
>
> "Ten meter fans will be there"

```
>
> ~~~~~
>
> FPCI "NOONER" QSO Party ... QRP Contest!
>
> May 5 - 1600z to 2000z
>
> Rules: http://www.fpqrp.com/fpqrpqsp.html
>
> "Work the Flying Pigs"
>
> ~~~~~
>
> Indiana QSO Party (All)
>
> May 05 - 1400z to May 06 - 2300z
>
> Rules: http://www.arrl.org/contests/months/may.html
> "Work Indiana Counties"
>
> ~~~~~
>
> Massachusetts QSO Party (All)
>
> May 5 - 1800z to May 6 - 0400z and
> May 6 - 1100z to May 6 - 2100z
>
> Rules: http://www.qsl.net/fara/qsoparty/maqsorules.html
>
> "Work MA Counties"
>
> ~~~~~
>
> Connecticut QSO Party (Phone/CW/RTTY) ... QRP Category
>
> May 5 - 2000z to May 6 - 0400z
> May 6 - 1200z to May 6 - 2000z
>
> Rules: http://www.danbury.org/cara/CT\_QSO\_Party.html
>
> "QRP Competition"
>
> ~~~~~
>
> ARI International DX Contest (Italian) (CW/SSB/RTTY)
>
> May 5 - 2000z to May 6 - 2000z
>
```

> Rules: http://www.kkn.net/~i2uiy/ARI_rul_dx.html
>
> "Everyone works everyone"
>
>
> ~~~~~
>
> Adventure Radio Spartan Sprint (CW) ... QRP Contest!
>
> May 8 - 0100z to 0300z (Monday evening US/Canada)
>
> Rules: http://www.natworld.com/ars/pages/spartan_sprints/ss_rules.html
>
> "Testing of lightweight radio gear suitable for outdoor QRP expeditions"
>
> ~~~~~
>
> Nevada QSO Party (All)
>
> May 12 - 0000z to May 13 - 0600z
>
> Rules: <http://home.sol.no/~janalme/rules/qsonv.txt>
>
> "Work NV Counties"
>
> ~~~~~
>
> Volta WW RTTY Contest
>
> May 12 - 1200z to May 13 - 1200z
>
> Rules: <http://home.sol.no/~janalme/rules/avolta.txt>
>
> "Honoring Electical Discoverer ALESSANDRO VOLTA"
>
> ~~~~~
>
> Oregon QSO Party (All)
>
> May 12 - 1400z to May 13 - 0200z
>
> Rules: <http://www.empnet.com/codxc/>
>
> "Work OR Counties"
>
> ~~~~~
>
> FISTS Spring Sprint (CW) ... QRP Category

>
> May 12 - 1700z to 2100z
>
> Rules: <http://www.fists.org/sprints.html>
>
> "WHEN YOU'VE WORKED A FIST, YOU'VE WORKED A FRIEND"
>
> ~~~~~
>
> CQM International DX Contest (CW/SSB/SSTV) ... QRP Category
>
> May 12 - 2100z to May 13 - 2100z
>
> Rules: http://www.mai.ru/~crc/cq-m/cqm_ru10.txt
>
> "Peace to the world"
>
>
> ~~~~~
>
> Dayton Hamvention (QRP Event - FDI*)
>
> May 18-20
>
> Info: <http://www.hamvention.org/>
>
> ~~~~~
>
> European Sprint (CW)
>
> May 19 - 1500z to 1859z
>
> Rules: <http://home.sol.no/~janalme/htmlrules/eusprint.html>
>
> "Work Europeans"
>
> ~~~~~
>
> Baltic Contest (CW/SSB) (80 Meters)
>
> May 19 - 2100z to May 20 - 0200z
>
> Rules: <http://home.sol.no/~janalme/rules/baltic.txt>
>
> "Promote Radio Sport. Work anyone"
>
> ~~~~~
>

```

> Anatolian RTTY WW Contest (Turkey)
>
> May 26 - 0000z to May 27 - 2400z
>
> Rules: http://www.sk3bg.se/contest/anrywmc.htm
>
> "RTTY All Bands"
>
> ~~~~~
>
> CQWW WPX Contest (CW) ... QRP Category
>
> May 26 - 0000z to May 27 - 2400z
>
> Rules: http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/n8bjq/
>
> "Great DX"
>
> ~~~~~
>
> QRP ARCI Hoot Owl Sprint (CW) ... QRP Contest!
>
> May 27 - 2000 to 2400 (Local Time)
>
> Rules: http://personal.palouse.net/rfoltz/arci/hoot.htm
>
> "QRP Fun"
>
> ~~~~~
>
> Michigan QRP Memorial Day Sprint (CW) ... QRP Contest!
>
> May 28 - 2300z to May 29 - 0300z
>
> Rules: http://www.qsl.net/k8dd/miqrp/rules01.htm
>
> "Bonus Points on HB Equipment"
>
> ~~~~~
>
> Thanks to K3WWP, SM3CER, WA7BNM, ARRL and others
> for assistance in compiling this calendar.
>
> Please forward the contest info you sponsor to N2CQ@ARRL.NET and
> we will post it and give it more publicity.
> Anyone may use this "QRP Contest Calendar" for your website, newsletter,
> e-mail list or other media as you choose.
> (Include a credit to the source of this material of course.)

```

>
> 72 de **** QRP Contest Calendar ****
> Ken Newman - N2CQ <http://www.njqrp.org/data/contesting.html>
> N2CQ@ARRL.NET <http://www.n3epa.org/Pages/Contest/contest.htm>
> <http://www.qsl.net/cqrp/contests.html>
>
>
>
>
>
>

Date: Thu, 3 May 2001 15:16:44 -0400 (EDT)
From: n2go@arrl.net
To: schoon@amgt.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97605] RE: the 2\$ gallon!
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.21.0105031515280.1706-1000000@valhalla.v>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

At the rate that prices are going up it may cease to be a qrp subject....
<humor, not sarcasm :>

73,

Jim n2go

Date: Thu, 03 May 2001 20:11:10 -0400
From: Dave Fouchey <dafouchey@home.com>
To: w1rfi@arrl.org, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97606] RE: the 2\$ gallon!
Message-ID: <4.1.20010503201016.00952c10@mail>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Darn I paid \$1.83 per gallon today for regular....

73
Dave
WA4EMR/8

At 07:45 PM 5/3/2001 -0400, Hare,Ed, W1RFI wrote:

>I know years back we worried that they were going to run out of 50-cent a
>gallon gasoline. They have run out of 50-cent a gallon gasoline; all we
>have left around here is \$1.75 a gallon gasoline. :-)

>

>73,

>Ed Hare, W1RFI

Date: Thu, 3 May 2001 19:35:50 -0500 (EST)

From: bob evinger <wd9eka@arrl.net>

To: John Nall <nally@talstar.com>

Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [97607] Re: Battery cable - a query

Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.21.0105031925001.896-100000@wd9eka.evinger.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

I am using a Trace DR2512 here. It is a 2.5kw continuous, surges to 6kw with 12 volt batteries. Do the math, that is a lot of current. I didnt even contemplate trying to make my own cables. I am running 4/0 cable, 10 foot in length. It is all copper and made up of some un-godly qty of small strands.(It is very flexible) I don't think you can find anything at a local home improvement store that will come close to what the pre-made inverter cables can do. The biggest problem I had with them is cutting them to put the cutoff/breaker switch in line. The strands were so small that I like to never cut through it. It was kind of like trying to knaw a water hose. I was using large bolt cutters though and they kind of expect the material to be a lot more rigid.

Yep, it is expensive, but in relative terms it is cheap. Probably one of the cheapest parts of my system. As a point of reference I think I paid less than \$80 for the cables(4 years ago so I am stretching my memory). The batteries were around \$600, the inverter \$1000, cutoff switch was over \$100 I am sure, PV panels with racks \$2800, 300watt wind generator \$500.

Not sure where you have looked for cables but check.

www.deliveredolutions.com

www.energyoutfitters.com (address may be misspelled, there in OR)

www.realgoods.com

Energy outfitters and deliveredolutions have prices usually much lower than real goods. Real goods is excellent for information but

they have become a little to green for my blood.

good luck
bob

On Thu, 3 May 2001, John Nall wrote:

> I'm doing a project involving solar panels and batteries, for emergency
> power for my ham station. Part of the project involves using a Heart
> 2000-watt inverter for converting DC to AC. The instructions for the
> inverter specify that heavy duty battery cable be used for hooking it up.
>
> Now...battery cable at an auto parts store is pretty expensive. I notice
> that Home Depot carries what appears to be pretty heavy duty copper cable in
> their electrical department, and I would assume that heavy duty copper cable
> is heavy duty copper cable, no matter what the name.
>
> However....the reason for this query...I have been known to get in trouble
> for my "assumptions" in the past :-). So would ask if anyone knows anything
> special about battery cable to distinguish it from the Home Depot stuff? Or
> is my assumption correct?
>
> Thanks,
>
> John AF4WM
>
>
>

--

Bob Evinger WD9EKA Marshall, Illinois
If Guns Cause Crime, Then Matches Cause Arson.

Date: Thu, 03 May 2001 21:00:12 -0400
From: Mark Dulcey <mark@buttery.org>
To: k5di@zianet.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97608] Re: Fw: Re: Cost/Benefit Analysis of Iambic Paddle
Message-ID: <3AF1FF1C.8BC5FC7D@buttery.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

"Karl F. Larsen" wrote:

>
> I just ordered an iambic paddle from ElectronicsUSA.com and it
> costs \$16.95. The straight paddle is only \$12.95. I really don't see the
> big difference...

First, they charge 16.95 for either the iambic or non-iambic paddle; it's the straight key that's cheaper. The paddles sold by Electronics USA are certainly cheap - in all senses of the word; they're a very primitive mechanism. They won't rival the feel of a good desktop paddle (or, for that matter, a good miniature like the Palm or Paddlette), but they may appeal to operators who like to keep things simple.

An iambic paddle has two arms that move independently. You can send alternating dots and dashes by pressing both (pressing the one that you want to start the sequence with a bit earlier), and you can insert a dot into a string of dashes, or a dash into a series of dots, by pressing the dot or dash while holding the other paddle. So, for example, you send a Q by holding the dash paddle, and briefly pressing the dot paddle while the second dash is in the process of being sent.

A non-iambic paddle has a single arm that you push one way for dots, and the other way for dashes. Since there is no way to press both at the same time, you can't do the insert trick that you can do with an iambic paddle. So, to send a Q, you have to move to the dash side to send the two dashes, over to the dot side to send the dot, and back over to the dash side to send the last dash. The difference is most dramatic when sending an alternating sequence of dots and dashes, like a period or the letter C.

--
Mark J. Dulcey mark@buttery.org
Visit my house's home page: <http://www.buttery.org/>
Visit my home page: <http://www.buttery.org/mark/>

Date: Thu, 3 May 2001 18:25:29 -0700
From: "Bob Hightower" <nk7m@extremezone.com>
To: <bmurrey@amexol.net>
Cc: "qrp list" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [97609] Re: the 2\$ gallon!
Message-ID: <001301c0d439\$1bee4b80\$3c127d3f@dell>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

That's why we have all been given ears :^)

----- Original Message -----

From: "Brian Murrey" <bmmurrey@amexol.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2001 2:48 PM
Subject: Re: the 2\$ gallon!

> It's a huge deal if you have a 9 gallon head trying to get into a Texas 10
> gallon hat.

>

> I know. I've BEEN THERE.

>

> 72

>

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: "Ted Williams" <ted@g0ull.fsnet.co.uk>
> To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
> Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2001 2:30 PM
> Subject: Re: the 2\$ gallon!

>

>

> > No, Mel.

> >

> > The US gallon is only 0.83 times an Imperial gallon, so that a 10 gallon
> > Texas hat is only 8.3 real gallons, which is really no big deal ;-)

> >

> > Ted g0ull

> >

> >

>

Date: Thu, 3 May 2001 18:33:55 -0700
From: "Bob Hightower" <nk7m@extremezone.com>
To: <nally@talstar.com>
Cc: "qrp list" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [97610] Re: Battery cable - a query
Message-ID: <004301c0d43a\$4a543c40\$3c127d3f@dell>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I have the same inverter in my solar setup, and the cable specified for that was 2/0 welding cable. I needed slightly longer cable than was provided with the system, and I was told, in no uncertain terms, NOT to use battery cables, and, as the solar dealer didn't sell the cable, it seemed that he had no monetary interest in this.

So, I went to my local battery shop (Batteries Plus), and had them make up cables in the length and with the ends I needed. Sure wasn't cheap!

Given the cost of the inverter, I wouldn't want to jeopardize my investment by using other than was specified.

Bob NK7M

----- Original Message -----

From: "John Nally" <nally@talstar.com>

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2001 11:31 AM

Subject: Battery cable - a query

> I'm doing a project involving solar panels and batteries, for emergency
> power for my ham station. Part of the project involves using a Heart
> 2000-watt inverter for converting DC to AC. The instructions for the
> inverter specify that heavy duty battery cable be used for hooking it up.
>
> Now...battery cable at an auto parts store is pretty expensive. I notice
> that Home Depot carries what appears to be pretty heavy duty copper cable
in
> their electrical department, and I would assume that heavy duty copper
cable
> is heavy duty copper cable, no matter what the name.
>
> However....the reason for this query...I have been known to get in trouble
> for my "assumptions" in the past :-) So would ask if anyone knows
anything
> special about battery cable to distinguish it from the Home Depot stuff?
Or
> is my assumption correct?
>
> Thanks,
>
> John AF4WM
>

Date: Thu, 3 May 2001 18:47:00 -0700
From: "Floyd Smithberg" <nq7x@earthlink.net>
To: "Paul Jr Williams" <Stevi8347@aol.com>, "Ray/Molly Walker" <RayFwa@aol.com>,
"David Spenser" <davids@ddialogue.co.uk>,
"Jon&Chrissy Smithberg" <smithb908@cs.com>, "Floyd Jr KE0DE Smithberg"
<fesmithe@ix.netcom.com>, "Roger Rowe" <dahill@wyoming.com>,
Subject: [97611] e-mail address change-again
Message-ID: <001b01c0d43c\$20621900\$e8d51d26@floyd>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Sorry gotta do this again...AT&T couldn't cut it, so switched address to:
NQ7X@EARTHLINK.NET
This has been very frustrating, but hopefully done now.

73 Floyd NQ7X Phoenix,AZ ScQRPion DM33uq

Date: Thu, 3 May 2001 18:53:18 -0700
From: "Denis Englander" <ko6gf@slip.net>
To: <zlau@arrl.org>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [97612] Re: Bending aluminum
Message-ID: <006901c0d43d\$077b7980\$f1507fd8@sirus.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

For those interested in bending sheet metal etc...

Here is the URL for a little calculator page for the
purpose of helping to establish true raw material
dimensions for finished products via bending...

<http://www.interl.net/%7Ejoemansh/smbc.html>

Thanks go to the original developer of the above
page, and to whoever pointed me toward it.

72/73 de K06GF - Denis in SF

----- Original Message -----
From: "Lau, Zack, W1VT" <zlau@arrl.org>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Sent: Wednesday, May 02, 2001 5:53 AM
Subject: Bending aluminum

> There is a rec.crafts.metalworking thread on "Bending 1/8" 6061"
> It can be done with a 4x bend radius--use a 1/4" bend radius
> for 1/16" sheet metal, preferably against the grain.
>
> I ought to mill some bar stock with the right radii for
> my Little Giant brake--Zack W1VT
>

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 02:31:23 +0100
From: "Steve Sorrell" <ap036@detroit.freenet.org>
To: <nk7m@extremezone.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-
l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97613] Re: the 2\$ gallon!
Message-ID: <00a201c0d439\$f34b5a00\$9dfa070a@default>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

As my old dad used to say, when the refiners and producers get into to bed
with one another, somebody usually gets screwed. I think we all know who
that is.

Excuse me for now, I'm having trouble sitting down.
de Steve, W8SFF

Date: Thu, 3 May 2001 22:41:45 -0700
From: John Payne <paynej1@tnni.net>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [97614] Help, I've nothing to build!
Message-ID: <SAK.2001.05.03.jhdsgapm@john-payne>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: Text/Plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8Bit

Now I've done it. I just had to finish my last building project today, and the
old fever is already giving me the
twitchies. That slobbering iron is looking at me reproachfully, as if to say,
"Come on, John. I'm sitting here

cold. Lets melt some solder!" The real problem is, not only have I run out of projects, but also money.

Guess I'll have to start filling up the old penny jar for a K2.

Hey Nils, got a spare badger? One with a nice pink tube-top? Huh? Oh, here's that nice lady with the needle again...

73 all... John N4FLJ

Date: Thu, 3 May 2001 23:14:04 -0400
From: tailfeathers@juno.com
To: paynej1@tnni.net
Cc: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [97615] Re: Help, I've nothing to build!
Message-ID: <20010503.231808.-414777.5.tailfeathers@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Man isn't that a sick feeling when you have caught up on your building and realize you are out of kits and have spent your allowance that your wife allocates you and have to wait a few days to get more money? Is there a (Hi my name is Gary and I'm a kit builder's annonomous list?)

Gary

On Thu, 3 May 2001 22:41:45 -0700 John Payne <paynej1@tnni.net> writes:

> Now I've done it. I just had to finish my last building project
> today, and the old fever is already giving me thw
> twitchies. That slobbering iron is looking at me reproachfully, as
> if to say, "Come on, John. I'm sitting here
> cold. Lets melt some solder!" The real problem is, not only have I
> run out of projects, but also money.
> Guess I'll have to start filling up the old penny jar for a K2.
>
> Hey Nils, got a spare badger? One with a nice pink tube-top? Huh?
> Oh, here's that nice lady with the
> needle again...
>
> 73 all... John N4FLJ
>
>

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<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Thu, 03 May 2001 21:29:52 -0700
From: Dan Tayloe <dtayloe@home.com>
To: mmullins@mastnet.net, qrp-l <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97616] [97540] RE: DDS VFO instead of a crystal
Message-ID: <3AF23040.2D939ACA@home.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

>Incidentally, the last time this topic came up, I heard from Paul N2PK. He
>built a VFO with two 9850's in quadrature using dead-bug construction!!!

I also used a pair of 9851's in quadrature to run an all band (1.8-30 MHz) Tayloe detector transceiver. A pair of 9851's were chosen over the single chip 9854 because two 9851's use ****much**** less power. A pair of 9851s in 1x quadrature, lowpass filtered and then squared up into digital form, produce two "address bits" which are required to run the detector at the 4x rate. The 9854 draws about a watt all by itself!

Even running the 9851s at a 120 MHz clock rate, the quality of the resulting signals were usable below 14 MHz, but above that, noise from the 9851's significantly reduced the sensitivity of the receiver. On 14 MHz on down, I could get -143 dbm sensitivity in a 500 Hz bandwidth, but that got progressively worse at higher frequencies. The excess DDS "noise" seemed to get progressively worse in "waves". As the frequency increased, the noise would increase, then get a bit better, then get much worse, then a bit better again, then much worse, etc.

I verified this excess noise was due to the DDS by substituting canned crystal oscillators (such as a 80 MHz canned osc) and verified the receiver sensitivity returned to -143 dbm.

Furthermore, I discovered that the DDS spurs moved around a lot and were regularly discovered at an audio offset from the carrier. In other words, if you tuned across the band using the incrementally small frequency offsets the DDS allowed (under 0.01 Hz?), you would hear small birdie "tweets" at somewhat regular intervals. A PLL will not clean up these artifacts since they will be well within the "lock" range of the PLL.

I think Benson's DDS rigs do a good job of "hiding" these DDS artifacts, probably by choosing a frequency step size and starting frequency that

were likely chosen to "miss" the vast majority (but not all) of these annoying DDS "birdies".

I tried using a PLL to clean up the DDS signal, but the close in DDS "birdies" (spurs) get preserved. A moderately clean VCO signal locked to a dirty DDS signal creates a moderately clean signal with some remaining close in dirt.

Therefore, I have given up on the use of DDS for a high performance signal source for a high performance receiver, even when combined with a PLL follower.

I have been looking at high performance VFOs for my digital radios and have decided they simply don't exist. Consider the following thought experiment: Take an infinite Q inductor (no loss) and tie it to a an infinite Q capacitor, you can get a great low noise VFO. However, attach a relatively low Q varactor diode to this great L/C combination with just enough delta "C" to cover the desired tuning range and all of a sudden, the infinite Q gets degraded to a moderate Q resulting in a VFO with only moderate sideband noise performance.

An example of this was an idea someone passed to me to use a length of coax as a very high quality L/C tank to form a very low noise VFO. Coupling a varactor to this somewhat bulky tank circuit kills the Q of the circuit. Oh, well.....

VXOs are better, but they cover only a limited frequency range.

Never the less, I have come up with an alternative idea that may net me both a stable electrically tunable VFO with noise characteristics of maybe -150 db down at 10 KHz out. It is an old idea, but new to me. I am currently testing this out.

I say all of this to keep folks from getting to excited about the DDS chips that are on the market. It might be different if they had 24 bit Digital to Analog converter (-118 db down spurs? - extremely unlikely!) rather than the 10 to 12 bits (spurs -80 db down?) currently used now.

- Dan Tayloe, N7VE; Phoenix, Az; Az ScQRPions

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 01:26:06 -0400

From: "Brian B. Riley, N1BQ" <n1bq@wulfdn.org>

To: <nally@talstar.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [97617] RE: Battery cable - a query

Message-ID: <LPBBJAGIPFHKPJENAKLOKEKOEIAA.n1bq@wulfdn.org>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Forget the autoparts store ... you want 3/0 or 4/0 wire for a 2KW inverter. The best stuff is the welding wire stuff with beaucoup fine wires as opposed to lesser numbers of heavier wires (they are a bear to work with).

DON'T CHEAP on the wire ... one of two things will happen --- you will piss away a lot of watts in the wire or you will start a dandy fire ... actually you will probably do both!

2KW with even a 24 volt feed and 90% efficiency is nearly 100 amps, with 12 volt feed its over 200 amps ... this is nothing to mess around with.

You really need to get some books about low voltage high current DC wiring before you start doing this ...

One tip, get a set of tools together, that is the hex wrenches, the allen wrenches, the various screwdrivers etc for each lug and terminal in the system, set those tools aside just to be used with this setup. take a fresh roll of black plastic electrical tape and tape the shafts, handles, of every tool leaving only the area that contacts the terminal, nut etc exposed. This way if you drop a tool you have a chance to get away with it - I lost a brand new Craftsman 5/8 wrench that got dropped while hooking up 6 VDC, 220 AH Trojan T-105. It turned red and melted before I could knock it away. The molten metal ruined the top of the battery. That was an \$85 dollar mistake and it fortunately didn't spark any hydrogen explosion. Well ... \$85 plus the cost of a new wrench.

> -----Original Message-----

> From: John Nall

> Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2001 14:32 PM

> To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion

> Subject: Battery cable - a query

>

>

> I'm doing a project involving solar panels and batteries, for
> emergency

> power for my ham station. Part of the project involves using a Heart
> 2000-watt inverter for converting DC to AC. The instructions for the
> inverter specify that heavy duty battery cable be used for
> hooking it up.

>

> Now...battery cable at an auto parts store is pretty
> expensive. I notice
> that Home Depot carries what appears to be pretty heavy duty
> copper cable in
> their electrical department, and I would assume that heavy
> duty copper cable
> is heavy duty copper cable, no matter what the name.
>
> However....the reason for this query...I have been known to
> get in trouble
> for my "assumptions" in the past :-) So would ask if anyone
> knows anything
> special about battery cable to distinguish it from the Home
> Depot stuff? Or
> is my assumption correct?
>
> Thanks,
>
> John AF4WM
>
>

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 01:26:08 -0400
From: "Brian B. Riley, N1BQ" <n1bq@wulfdn.org>
To: <myetsko@insydesw.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-
l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97618] RE: Battery cable - a query
Message-ID: <LPBBJAGIPFHKPJENAKLOMEKOEIAA.n1bq@wulfdn.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Be careful of SEU ... its aluminaum and its derated from copper. So whn
I recommended 3/0 and 4/0 wire for a 2KW inverter I meant copper ... 2/0
SEU wire is like 1/0 copper at best.

I am running about 12 feet total (six foot double run) 4/0 copper for my
Trace 2KW inverter at 12 VDC.

> -----Original Message-----
> From: owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
> [mailto:owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU]On Behalf Of
> Mike Yetsko
> Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2001 14:40 PM

> To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
> Subject: Re: Battery cable - a query
>
>
> Well, it should be heavy. PRETTY DARN HEAVY!!!
>
> Remember, the way some inverters work, they can actually draw peak,
> or close to peak, current at weird spots in the waveform.
>
> Therefore, HEAVY HEAVY HEAVY...
>
> If you want a good quality cable, consider a short piece of what
> is called 'service entry' cable. It should be double or triple
> 0 size. (At least 3/8" diameter.) A MUST if you're need to
> run more than a couple feet to your battery.
>
> You CANNOT go TOO HEAVY!! (Unless weight and/or size
> is one of your compromises.)
>
> By the way, HEAVY service entry wire is usually available for
> free at most construction sites. They always seem to have a few
> foot lengths of it. If you ask nicely. There's usually a lot of the
> old 3 conductor around from home remodeling too. A lot of times
> a service entry is redone, and they will use 3 discrete runs in a
> pipe (mine was when I had mine redone to support 'demand side
> servicing') and the old 3 conductor stuff was 'ripped out'.
>
> Mike
>
> > I'm doing a project involving solar panels and batteries,
> for emergency
> > power for my ham station. Part of the project involves
> using a Heart
> > 2000-watt inverter for converting DC to AC. The
> instructions for the
> > inverter specify that heavy duty battery cable be used for
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> anything
> > special about battery cable to distinguish it from the Home
> Depot stuff?
> Or
> > is my assumption correct?
> >
> > Thanks,
> >
> > John AF4WM
> >
> >
>
>

Date: Fri, 04 May 2001 08:52:25 +0000
From: Paul Kiciak <pkiciak@att.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Cc: dtayloe@home.com
Subject: [97619] Re: [97540] RE: DDS VFO instead of a crystal
Message-ID: <3AF26DC9.F2371E1@att.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Dan Tayloe wrote:

> >Incidentally, the last time this topic came up, I heard from Paul N2PK. He
> >built a VFO with two 9850's in quadrature using dead-bug construction!!!
>
> I also used a pair of 9851's in quadrature to run an all band (1.8-30
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> single chip 9854 because two 9851's use ****much**** less power. A pair of
> 9851s in 1x quadrature, lowpass filtered and then squared up into
> digital form, produce two "address bits" which are required to run the
> detector at the 4x rate. The 9854 draws about a watt all by itself!...

Actually, my homebrew all-band CW HF rig, on the air tested on 40, 30, 20, 15
and 10 m so far, uses a pair of 1X 9851's DDSs in quadrature with a pair of
direct convert detectors on receive and on-frequency RF generation for
transmit. RIT, XIT, CW reverse, Motorola DSP ala Rob Frohne, about 40-45 dB
opposite sideband suppression, about 1-20 watts out, etc.. Three 16F84 PICs are
in it so far with probably two more coming someday for PSK31. And, yes, all

dead bug construction.

The first receive detectors in this rig were a pair of uPC1037 Gilbert cell type mixers. This part, while not generally available, is used in some Yaesu rigs.

Recently, I had experimented with the Tayloe detector in the same configuration as Dan describes in hopes of improving on a spurious AM demodulation problem I was having with Radio Marti just below 20 meters.

While the AM demod was better with the Tayloe detector, I also found that the noise figure degraded with increased operating frequency. While present with both types of detectors, it was somewhat worse with my build of the Tayloe detector.

My rig, with quadrature DDS's, an RF pre-amp, and the Gilbert cell detectors in use originally, had adequate sensitivity for 10 meter CW and I've operated there with it during a contest or two (as well several contests on other bands). Sensitivity would be a problem with my build of the Tayloe detector and my DDSs on 10m.

I don't really have a complete explanation at this point of the difference between the two detectors. But my theory is that it is due to better LO to RF isolation in the Gilbert cell detector coupled with not needing all the LO squaring that occurs in the Tayloe detector. I suspect that LO sidebands (phase noise or otherwise), coupled back to the RF input on all direct convert detectors in varying degrees, are responsible for the degradation in noise figure and spurs with increased frequency. But I haven't taken the time to verify this. If true, both the LO quality and detector characteristics get into the act.

The Gilbert cell detector is inherently balanced if differentially coupled on all three ports. Typically, transformers with center-tapped secondaries for DC biasing, can be used to achieve that balance on the RF and LO ports, while an instrumentation type amplifier can be used on the audio output. The Tayloe detector can only be balanced (but isn't always) on the audio output port. Of course, unbalanced coupling between the various RF and LO connections, both external and internal, can degrade the isolation of the Gilbert cell detector.

A test that I did with an hp 141T spectrum analyzer on the RF input of both detectors showed measurable LO leakage with the Tayloe detector while none was observed within the -60 dBc displayed range for the rig's Gilbert cell detector.

I also did a test on another Gilbert cell mixer (MC1496 with balanced LO and RF In via transformers) and the same Tayloe detector as above. This time I used an FT-1000MP in place of the spectrum analyzer to monitor the RF input of each detector and to extend the dynamic range. An hp 8656A sig gen was used to

"calibrate" the MP's S-meter. The LO input to both detectors was -3 dBm . The results of that test were:

Freq	-Leakage dBM-	delta	
	1496	Tayloe	dB
7	~-129	-70	59
14	-113	-63	50
28	-106	-56	50

So, while the LO to RF leakage of both detectors degrade with increased frequency, the Tayloe detector has 50-60 dB more leakage..

Also, the DDS birdies that Dan refers to in his set-up are present on mine as well, but there are many more and higher amplitude with the Tayloe detector than with the Gilbert cell detector.

Very few, low level birdies are present with the Gilbert cell detectors - at least at the signal strengths I generally get at my QTH & an attic dipole. In fact, I have tuned this receiver without an antenna connected to the Gilbert cell detectors and the birdies that are heard are very low level and not objectionable.

With a high amplitude signal generator as the RF input to the Gilbert cell detectors, I can hear DDS LO spurs as the sig gen freq approaches the rig's receive frequency. But the sig gen amplitude has to be much stronger than my typical antenna signals for that to occur. So, I suspect the operative mechanism for the birdies here is largely a type of reciprocal mixing where the RF input effectively becomes the LO for the spurs on the LO DDS.

In the case of the Tayloe detector, I suspect that the DDS LO spurs are also fed back with significantly greater amplitude to the detector RF input and appear the same as any normal RF input, mix with the primary LO component, and become audible. So, I hear more DDS spurs with the Tayloe detector than with the Gilbert cell detector. And that too was without an antenna connected, so they're not caused by reciprocal mixing.

> I verified this excess noise was due to the DDS by substituting canned
> crystal oscillators (such as a 80 MHz canned osc) and verified the
> receiver sensitivity returned to -143 dbm.

Thanks, Dan. I haven't tried the clean LO test with the Tayloe detector. Your test results for both LOs coupled with mine appear to be consistent with my detector LO to RF sideband feedback theory as described above. At least, partial confirmation - lots of other testing would have to be done.

So, since my rig is committed to DDS, it looks like I will re-visit Gilbert cell detectors to recover the lost sensitivity and improve the AM demod problem

I had to start with. Will next try another version (someday) of the Gilbert cell with better balance on both LO and RF inputs using transformer coupling. I'll also try increased DC current, (but not as extreme as the 90 mA or so total needed in the Analog Devices AD831 !), increased emitter degeneration, as well as some other balancing similar to what Chris Trask has suggested to me.

In general tho, while I see a dependency on the detector in receive, I agree with Dan that the current DDS's, when not buffered by a PLL, do not result in an LO suitable for a high performance receiver or transmitter.

73,

Paul, N2PK

<http://home.att.net/~n2pk>

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 07:32:56 -0400
From: "Dave Dabay" <kd3pc@mindspring.com>
To: <wd9eka@arrl.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97620] Re: Battery cable - a query
Message-ID: <003401c0d48d\$f8601ea0\$d640fea9@mals>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

An easy way to cut the fine strand cable is to use a very sharp hacksaw blade, often standard cable cutters will "pull" a few strands away from the normal lay and that can cause difficulty. You may want to use a deoxidizer depending on where these cables will lay. Certainly think about it within your battery box or if there is any chance of moisture in the area. Connections are very important to do correctly and to keep clean. I second the "wrap things in tape" tactic below, it has saved me more than once, (electrician in a previous life).

good luck

dave

----- Original Message -----

From: bob evinger <wd9eka@arrl.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2001 8:35 PM

Subject: Re: Battery cable - a query

> I am using a Trace DR2512 here. It is a 2.5kw continuous, surges
> to 6kw with 12 volt batteries. Do the math, that is a lot of current.
> I didnt even contemplate trying to make my own cables.
> I am running 4/0 cable, 10 foot in length. It is all copper and made
> up of some un-godly qty of small strands.(It is very flexible)
> I don't think you can find anything at a local home improvement
> store that will come close to what the pre-made inverter cables
> can do. The biggest problem I had with them is cutting them to
> put the cutoff/breaker switch in line. The strands were so small
> that I like to never cut through it. It was kind of like trying
> to knaw a water hose. I was using large bolt cutters though and
> they kind of expect the material to be a lot more rigid.
>

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 07:46:06 -0400
From: "Lofstead, Jerry" <Jerry.Lofstead@itb.mckhboc.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97621] RE: the 2\$ gallon!
Message-ID: <078F21595FA7D411B87B00805FA728E64A4702@atlexc02ntms.hboc.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

If you want "CHEEP" gas, just drive to Atlanta. I filled up this AM @
\$1.39/gal... 8-) BUT, other stations are up to 1.79 8-(

Jerry
W3CDE

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 07:57:35 -0400
From: "Doyle, Ronald D" <RD130947@exchange.DAYTONOH.NCR.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Cc: "Doyle, Don (HOME)" <ac5ii@arrl.net>, "Doyle, Ron (Home)" <n8var@arrl.net>
Subject: [97622] Last notice for my snipe hunt
Message-ID: <0D6CE218BF54D211B37F00E0292657F408628170@SUSDAYTE03>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

Saturday eve May 5, 2001 I will do my first snipe hunt. I will be out camping with several hundred Boy Scouts at the Greenville Treaty in Greenville, OH.

I plan to start at 8:00pm EDT (00:00z) and run to 10:00pm EDT (02:00z). The freq. will be 7.043 +- qrm.

I will call

cq cq snipe de n8var n8var k

This will be a lot more relaxed than fox hunts so come out and have some fun with me. I will be very willing to ragchew.:) My cw speed will probably be around 15 to 18 wpm, I will match your speed if you need slower. Don't let speed keep you away.

The rig will be a TenTec Argo 515 running around 5 watts. I will try to get an EDZ for 20m hung in the trees and use a BLT tuner to match for 40m.

The battery is charged, radio and extras are packed and I'm pumped! I will also try to work the FPQRP Nooner contest. Check the FPQRP home page <<http://www.fpqrp.com/>> for details. Should be a real oinker.:)

72 de Ron, N8VAR

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 08:01:25 EDT
From: N0BN@aol.com
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [97623] N8we Maritime Mobile or Portable?
Message-ID: <ae.1478d35b.2823f415@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gentle people:

I got the attached message from my father Glen n8we yesterday. With his permission I thought it was worth posting. Just as guitars, backpacking, natural power and lots of other things go with radio in general and QRP, there is a long tradition of radio ops on the high seas.

"4-30-01. QSO with k2jvb, Dave, Great Neck, NY approx 14:00utc, 7mh and wa4kok, Shelton, Jacksonville, NC approx 15:00utc, 7mh. Operated from a Sevyllor inflatable kayak anchored in the sound at Salvo, NC off Hatteras Island.

Antenna was a Transel Technologies thf 40 whip, mounted on an inverted christmas tree stand, with two counterpoise wires hanging in the water. Rig was an OHR [100A?] qrp transceiver at about 2 watts. key was a Whiterook mk-22. RST from NY was 559 and from NC weak! I had battery and rig with speaker in backpack inside of garbage bag. did'nt open it till i was anchored. Tablet and key were on tube when I keyed.

"Wow! I was an excited OM [73 years old] when Dave and Shelton answered, and were so kind to stick with my salty fist. I can only say I have never met a greater bunch of people than todays amateurs. Regards to all. Glen, n8we."

THAT'S MY DAD! Really, we need to find something constructive for these seniors to do with themselves. (I'm jealous!)

I hate to nitpick (but I will anyway) but isn't this maritime portable rather than mobile since he was anchored and not underway? I call myself portable when I'm in my car parked in a parking lot. Would it be confusing to sign /MP?

73 all, and see you in Dayton.

Daniel n0bn

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 08:20:20 -0400
From: "Brian B. Riley, N1BQ" <n1bq@wulfdn.org>
To: <wd9eka@arrl.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97624] RE: Battery cable - a query
Message-ID: <LPBBJAGIPFHKPJENAKLOGELCEIAA.n1bq@wulfdn.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> -----Original Message-----
> From: bob evinger
> Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2001 20:36 PM
> To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
> Subject: Re: Battery cable - a query

[snip]

> Not sure where you have looked for cables but check.
> www.deliveredolutions.com
> www.energyoutfitters.com (address may be misspelled, there in OR)
> www.realgoods.com
>
> Energy outfitters and deliveredolutions have prices usually much
> lower than real goods. Real goods is excellent for information but
> they have become a little to green for my blood.
>

Don't know Energy Outfitters, but both Real Goods and Delivered Solutions are very pricey. I recommend Backwoods Solar Electric <<http://www.backwoodssolar.com>> as the best prices and the best service. I have been dealing with them for 12 years and both Elizabeth and Steve, the owners are hams.

I run 700 watts of PV and 600 watts of wind here to 6 Trojan L-16s (6 VDC @375 AH) in a 12 volt array. They drive a Trace 2012 (modified sine wave) and an Exeltech 500 watt (sine wave) inverter (for my Power Mac and some audio stuff)

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 07:46:22 -0500
From: Harris Keith E CONT CNIN <harris_k@crane.navy.mil>
To: "'qrp-1@lehigh.edu'" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [97625] Re: the \$2 gallon
Message-ID:
<4F76B3D4A76AD111803B00A0C9893D9C06ED8D54@cninexchsrv05.crane.navy.mil>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain

Gang,

The station I normally buy gas has raised their price \$.29 per gallon in two days. It was up to \$1.85 for regular yesterday. I managed to find another station still selling at \$1.68 a gallon and filled up both vehicles. When I was stationed in Europe in the mid '70's I bought gas along the Autobahn in Belgium and didn't notice that they had penciled in a X2 after the price because their pumps didn't have the capability to have the correct price on the pump. I came up a little short on Belgian Francs and the guy wouldn't take Marks, Pounds or Dollars. I offered him 5 DM or \$2, but he didn't want it. I finally drove off. I figured up later he was going ballistic over 17 cents. I heard on the radio this morning that they are predicting \$3 a gallon for the whole summer. I'd sure like to see some

justification for a doubling of the price over last year. I figure they raise it for the same reason a dog licks certain parts of his body, because they can! Okay, off the soap box and back to work.

73 de N9KH

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 12:54:31 +0100
From: "Steve Sorrell" <ap036@detroit.freenet.org>
To: <harris_k@crane.navy.mil>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97626] Re: the \$2 gallon
Message-ID: <002101c0d490\$fdb8cde0\$9dfa070a@default>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Only way to fight back is to NOT carry around their inventory for them. Only buy what you need at the time and leave the rest at the pumps. If folks drove around with only a half tank, then they would have to carry the inventory. But, that would mean it would be inconvenient for the motorist and we couldn't have that, COULD WE?
de Steve, W8SFF

Date: Fri, 04 May 2001 09:16:57 -0400
From: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
To: tailfeathers@juno.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [97627] Re: Help, I've nothing to build!
Message-ID: <3AF2ABC9.81B4C34D@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Guys,

This posting struck a note with me so I thought I'd make these comments.

Contrary to popular opinion we old folks didn't have a hot soldering iron all the time. We tended to build projects that either enhanced our stations or perhaps brought us some other pleasure. The building craze that is going on in QRP is strange. People do not build to gain a newer or better piece of station equipment for the most part. Instead they all

build a slightly different variety of the same thing. None of the transceivers commonly built have anything that distinguishes them from any other! Only the K series have significant differences from the others.

Relax, you won't be considered less of a QRPer or a man if you don't have a hot soldering iron on the workbench! Learn all you can about the item you have already built. How can it be improved. Ask questions of the designer and the list. Modify it (shock, fear) to do what you think will be a better design! It's only a piece of homebrew electronics. Experience has shown that it doesn't have much value beyond its original price. Make it YOUR rig!

73

Date: Fri, 04 May 2001 09:29:45 EDT
From: Shepherd@aol.com
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [97628] CONTEST:
Message-ID: <cf.618e7f6.282408c9@aol.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Hello everyone,
Don't forget The Flying Pigs QRP Club, Int. is hosting a QRP contest tomorrow.

There will be a prize for the top scores, and certificates for all.

Full details can be found at:
<http://www.fpqrp.com/fpqrpqsp.html>

So far we have 5 MP20 builders who are going to be on the air. The list is at:
<http://www.mpna.com/fpqrp/contests.html>

72, oo
Dan, N8IE=AE

Daniel J. Shepherd Sr. is a registered trademark of
Eva Ruth and James Donald Shepherd Productions.
Copyright, 1962

Date: Fri, 04 May 2001 13:34:38
From: "Mike WA8BXN" <hubby2k@hotmail.com>
To: NOBN@aol.com, qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [97629] Re: N8we Maritime Mobile or Portable?
Message-ID: <F65U9T3TGJ2TUSzbAUf0000061e@hotmail.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

Maritime Mobile to my understanding requires you to be in international waters. So its probably just mobile or portable. If you are stopped at a traffic light in a car I think you are still considered mobile. If he is capable of motion if he untied from a dock, I would call it mobile. In any event I would call it fun!

72/73 - Mike WA8BXN

Get your FREE download of MSN Explorer at <http://explorer.msn.com>

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 09:36:01 -0400
From: "Bob Duckworth" <wb4mnf@atl.org>
To: <paynej1@tnni.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97630] Re: Help, I've nothing to build!
Message-ID: <200105041332.JAA04833@hat-trick>

Pick up an old PEECEE display tube from curbside.
Full of parts and free.
Transistors driving guns are good for QRP RF.
Power supply is in there.
Lots of small signal transistors, some good for RF.
Wire, toroids, etc.
-bob

| Guess I'll have to start filling up the old penny jar for a K2.

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 09:51:15 -0400
From: "JOSEPH PIRKLE" <ad4ih@worldnet.att.net>
To: <hubby2k@hotmail.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97631] Re: N8we Maritime Mobile or Portable?
Message-ID: <002101c0d4a1\$4cf93ec0\$75904d0c@pavilion>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;

charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

----- Original Message -----

From: "Mike WA8BXN" <hubby2k@hotmail.com>

> Maritime Mobile to my understanding requires you to be in international
> waters.

Exactly!

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 09:53:08 -0400
From: Bill Coleman <aa4lr@arrl.net>
To: <lejek@erols.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97632] Re: tiny 9-V transceivers?
Message-ID: <1010404095310.JAA17466@gate.iterated.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"

On 5/1/01 3:36 PM, Larry Cahoon at lejek@erols.com wrote:

>The K1 will do it. Check out my web site for a list of QSOs worked with
>the K1 and a 9 volt NiMH battery. 31 states worked so far. Look under the
>K1 - 9 volt battery link off the main page.

How many states do you get per 9V battery?

Bill Coleman, AA4LR, PP-ASEL Mail: aa4lr@arrl.net
Quote: "Not within a thousand years will man ever fly!"
 -- Wilbur Wright, 1901

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 09:02:51 -0500
From: "Dan W. Doooley" <dandoooley@pipeline.com>
To: <harris_k@crane.navy.mil>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97633] Re: the \$2 gallon
Message-ID: <00ce01c0d4a2\$ed810520\$812baec7@dandoooley>
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Are we approaching the time for another tea party?

Dan W. Dooley WB5TKA Bedford, Texas EM12ku
e-mail to: dandoooley@pipeline.com
Web site: <http://www.qsl.net/wb9tka>
SOC #198, FPQRP # -104
May Goddes love blest ye alle
"Ancient Pistol, I do partly understand your meaning."

----- Original Message -----

From: "Harris Keith E CONT CNIN" <harris_k@crane.navy.mil>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2001 7:46 AM
Subject: Re: the \$2 gallon

> Gang,
> The station I normally buy gas has raised their price \$.29 per gallon
in
> two days. It was up to \$1.85 for regular yesterday. I managed to find
> another station still sellling at \$1.68 a gallon and filled up both
> vehicles. When I was stationed in Europe in the mid '70's I bought gas
> along the Autobahn in Belgium and didn't notice that they had penciled in
a
> X2 after the price because their pumps didn't have the capability to have
> the correct price on the pump. I came up a little short on Belgian Francs
> and the guy wouldn't take Marks, Pounds or Dollars. I offered him 5 DM or
> \$2, but he didn't want it. I finally drove off. I figured up later he
was
> going ballistic over 17 cents. I heard on the radio this morning that
they
> are predicting \$3 a gallon for the whole summer. I'd sure like to see
some
> justification for a doubling of the price over last year. I figure they
> raise it for the same reason a dog licks certain parts of his body,
because
> they can! Okay, off the soap box and back to work.
>
> 73 de N9KH

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 11:36:10 -0400 (EDT)
From: <baltimoremd@baltimoremd.com>
To: "Dan W. Dooley" <dandooley@pipeline.com>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97634] Re: the \$2 gallon
Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.4.05L.10105041132230.16296-100000@vh1.min.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Fri, 4 May 2001, Dan W. Dooley wrote:

> Are we approaching the time for another tea party?

Don't think there are many refineries in the Boston Area..and dressing up as Native Americans might be considered politically incorrect.

Although, as a statistical minority, QRP folks might apply for either "gallon grants" or be afforded special tax credits.

thom

baltimoremd@baltimoremd.com
<http://www.zerobeat.net>

Thom LaCosta K3HRN Webmaster
Home of The QRP Web Ring
and Drake Mail List Pages

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 11:47:13 -0400
From: "Robert C. Shelton, Jr" <rscs@goes.com>
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97635] Re: the \$2 gallon
Message-ID: <000901c0d4b1\$7d645080\$0ed1f0d0@default>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

How about we drop the cost of gas and stick to QRP? There's enough to delete.

Date: Fri, 04 May 2001 08:52:20 -0700
From: Charlie Panek <charlie_paneke@agilent.com>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU

Subject: [97636] Re: Pixie2 on 20m
Message-ID: <3AF2D034.32BBCFF9@agilent.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

From: Oleg Borodin (vector72@lipetsk.ru)
>
> Dear QRPers!
> I'm very interesting for:
> does anybody use the PIXIE2 on 20m? Why results?
> Let me know, please. Good luck!
> Oleg V. Borodin E-Mail: vector72@lipetsk.ru
> 72 & 73! de RV3GM/QRP

Oleg:

See: <http://www.seanet.com/~panek/>

The toughest part is getting a 20m fundamental mode crystal on QRP frequencies.

72,
Charlie
KX7L

--

Charlie Panek
mailto:charlie_pane@agilent.com
Agilent Technologies Inc.
Everett, Washington

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 09:40:23 -0700 (PDT)
From: agtaylor@llnl.gov
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [97637] WTB: SW40/SW40+/40-40 xcvr
Message-ID: <200105041641.JAA27304@poptop.llnl.gov>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/plain; CHARSET=US-ASCII

I would like to find a SW40 / 40-40 xcvr built/running to perform the mods suggested in the QRP Power articles. A SW40+ would be ok also. A fancy box is NOT needed/NOT wanted as this xcvr will be, after mods, packaged severely in a TFR style.

Must be very modestly priced. Can trade a ZM2 towards one.

Allan K7GT

--

Allan G Taylor

agtaylor@llnl.gov

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 10:40:58 -0700
From: Dan Presley <talljazz@teleport.com>
To: w6toy@erols.com
Cc: qrp-1@LeHigh.edu
Subject: [97638] Re: Help, I've nothing to build!
Message-ID: <f05010455b71896797b81@[209.239.211.98]>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii" ; format="flowed"

Bruce-what on earth do you mean by "The building craze that is going on in QRP is strange."It's not strange at all, but the healthiest trend in amateur radio in many,many years. It's far better to build than buy even if it was a lesser rig than an off-the -shelf rig (which most of the time it isn't!)As an example, there has yet to be a commercial rig that is as battery and backpack friendly as a number of kit rigs such as NC-40, SST, DSW series, etc. These designers are light years ahead of the commercial groups in designing to a need and a ready market while at the same time encouraging technical growth and understanding.Can you point out to me a 'store-bought' rig that has low battery consumption, 'AFA" (audio freq readout), high performance recieve, built in memory keyer in a very small package? Not only that, but each offering is significantly different in features, packaging and style than its competition. It's been the major story in ham radio as far as I'm concerned in the past 5 years, and don't kid yourself for a moment-Yaesu wouldn't have been so quick to get the 817 to market if they didn't see a trend here.

--

Dan Presley
talljazz@teleport.com
(503) 232-8244
pager (503) 229-8682

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 10:36:36 -0700
From: "Phinizy, William" <wphinizy@filenet.com>
To: "'qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU'" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97639] FS: Test Equipment

Message-ID: <C3AF5E329E21D2119C4C00805F6FF58F04B76F12@hq-expo2.filenet.com>

I have a very clean HP 1741A 100-MHz storage oscilloscope. Trace is good, storage capability works fine, it works great and is immaculate inside. Recently calibrated. The case has a slight dent in the side but all knobs are intact -- ESPECIALLY THE REAR FOOT PEGS! I am asking \$175 -- price includes CONUS shipping as well as a *clean* official HP manual (not a copy).

Also have an old Eico 360 sweep/signal generator for \$25 shipped CONUS.

Thanks in advance and sorry for the bandwidth.

W. H. Phinizy, K6WHP
Principal Engineer
FileNET Corporation

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 09:54:34 -0700
From: "Doug Hendricks" <ki6ds@dph.dpol.net>
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [97640] Why do QRPers Build?
Message-ID: <01c0d4ba\$e5ce9320\$330b0d0a@doug.dph.dpol.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Bruce Muscolino posted to the list that he did not think that there was any significant difference in the things that people build. To make sure that I get it right, here is a copy of part of his post:

"People do not build to gain a newer or better piece of station equipment for the most part. Instead they all build a slightly different variety of the same thing. None of the transceivers commonly built have anything that distinguishes them from any other! Only the K series have significant differences from the others."

Well Bruce, I disagree. Let's look at what some of the guys have built in the last few years.

I will start with the K2, I built one, and it has a lot of neat features, is a very good kit. It has the look and feel of a commercial rice box (not intended as a demeaning comment, K2 Groupies). Actually that is a compliment. To be able to produce a kit that looks like a commercial product is pretty neat. But, the K2 uses NE602 technology. It has

excellent filters. But significant differences from the other rigs??? No, I don't think so. Works great, but I really don't feel that it broke any new ground other than one very important feature. It raised the standard as far as receiver performance goes to a couple of new levels.

Next let's go with the NorCal 20/Red Hot 20. This radio was designed to be used in Europe, not the US. Thus, it used a "real mixer" not a 602. No reflection on 602 radios, just that it was designed to be "crunch proof", and it is. Did it break significant ground? No, I don't think so. It did have a built in keyer, and built in frequency annunciator. Easily runs 5 watts. Great Receiver. Fun kit to build.

Now the SWL DSW Series. Did this one break new ground? You betcha. This one featured a surface mount digital IC and a whole new world opened up as far as VFO's go. Dave Benson can't kit these fast enough. The chip is hard to get, but when he gets a supply in, the kits fly out the door. Great rig, neat features, and a DDS VFO built in!!

Next from the same guy, Dave Benson came the PSK20. Whoa, this is a whole new mode to qrpers. Cheap too. I gotta say that this one definitely broke new ground. When you add the huge number of PSK80's sold by the NJ QRP Club, you know what I am talking about when I say that this broke new ground.

The K1. This is a nice kit. Dual bander. Packaged really well, but I think it is more of an optimized Sierra than a new design. Great little radio for taking car camping. Battery friendly (as long as you don't use the speaker).

The SMK-1. Another NorCal kit. This one definitely breaks new ground as far as a proving that anyone can build a surface mount kit. We had a few kits out that used surface mount parts, but this was the first one that used more than a handfull of parts. The packaging of the parts was even innovative. Naysayers on the list said that hams would never be able to build using surface mount parts. The SMK-1 disproved that theory convincingly.

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Sheldon Hands has an excellent all band transceiver that does not get much attention here in the US, but it is an excellent radio, and again, uses a real mixer instead of the NE602.

Finally, I would close with Jim Kortge's contribution. He popularized Manhattan construction more than anyone else that I know of. He has written articles, given presentations at QRP Forums, and taught literally

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So Bruce, I say to you that I disagree. I think that builders today are learning tons of things. I can see why people love to build. Because they learn new skills when they build. Are the kits the guys are building all the same? Heavens no. Look at the list above: K2, NC20, SWL DSW, PSK20, R2/T2, Hands Transceiver, Kortge's Manhattan stuff. All are radios, but all have their own very unique features. Thank goodness for the demise of Heathkit. 72, Doug, KI6DS

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 10:57:24 -0700
From: "Phinizy, William" <wphinizy@filenet.com>
To: "QRP-l Forum (E-mail)" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97641] FS: Test Equipment (HP scope sold)
Message-ID: <C3AF5E329E21D2119C4C00805F6FF58F04B76F16@hq-expo2.filenet.com>

Thanks to all those that responded; The HP scope has been sold.

Bill, K6WHP

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 11:09:37 -0700
From: <schoon@amgt.com>
To: <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>, <ki6ds@dph.dpol.net>
Subject: [97642] RE: Why do QRPers Build?
Message-ID: <c=US%a=_%p=American_Geotech%l=AG-CALCITE-BDC-010504180937Z-817@ag-basalt-pxy.amgt.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

<Tongue_In_Cheek>

While I tend to agree that QRPers are prolific builders, what I wonder is where can I get extra time in my day to build!! Now, adding 4 more hours to the 24 hour day would be an outstanding QRP accomplishment!!

</Tongue_In_Cheek>

.mark

>-----

>From: Doug Hendricks[SMTP:ki6ds@dph.dpol.net]

>Sent: Friday, May 04, 2001 9:54 AM

>To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion

>Subject: Why do QRPers Build?

>

>Bruce Muscolino posted to the list that he did not think that there was any
>significant difference in the things that people build. To make sure that I
>get it right, here is a copy of part of his post:

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>"People do not build to gain a newer or
>better piece of station equipment for the most part. Instead they all
>build a slightly different variety of the same thing. None of the
>transceivers commonly built have anything that distinguishes them from any
>other! Only the K series have significant differences from the others."

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>the last few years.

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>intended as a demeaning comment, K2 Groupies). Actually that is a
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>product is pretty neat. But, the K2 uses NE602 technology. It has
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>all have their own very unique features. Thank goodness for the demise of
>Heathkit. 72, Doug, KI6DS

>

>

>

Date: Fri, 04 May 2001 14:12:35 -0400
From: "Mark J. Dulcey" <mark@buttery.org>
To: ki6ds@dph.dpol.net
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97643] Re: Why do QRPers Build?
Message-ID: <3AF2F113.2036E957@buttery.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Doug Hendricks wrote:

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Just to pick a nit...

The first receive mixer (the important one that comes before the filters and the AGC) of the K2 is a TUF-1 diode ring, not a 602. A 602 is used for the product detector (which is really a mixer with an output at audio frequencies), but it doesn't hurt dynamic range at that point in the circuit.

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 14:16:26 -0400
From: "Brian" <bmurrey@amexol.net>
To: <ki6ds@dph.dpol.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97644] Re: Why do QRPers Build?
Message-ID: <002701c0d4c6\$559a90e0\$3d05080a@cincom.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Doug,

I enjoyed your message and it was fun to remember the line up of great rigs you outlined. What is a "real mixer" though? I'm asking because I don't know.

Another rig that the QRP crowd is really enjoying right now is the MultiPig by W8DIZ. The Flying Pigs have about 25 folks building this PLL all band rig right now. Check out <http://www.fpqrp.com/pigg20> for more information. We started building on March 3rd and we already have 9 or 10 completed. These rigs will be at FDIM, stop by the Flying Pigs table at Dayton and have a look. This is an AWESOME demonstration of using the internet (webs, emails, and listservers) to teach hams the fine art of ugly construction while they build a superior class transceiver.

I'm a MultiPig builder, and I hope I have mine done by end of May. I have a ton to learn about designing rigs and building rigs but thanks to groups like Norcal, Flying Pigs, NJQRP and Joy Bob I've learned tons. I have built and used a NC40A, a ZM-2, a SMK-1, a TT2, and the marker generator in the last two and half years. I love building stuff. Once I get my MultiPig running I will probably sell my Scout or put it in my car <grin>.

Anyway, everytime I build and use something, I learn more about electronics and ham radio. That's why I build.

72

----- Original Message -----

From: "Doug Hendricks" <ki6ds@dph.dpol.net>

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Sent: Friday, May 04, 2001 12:54 PM

Subject: Why do QRPers Build?

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> Heathkit. 72, Doug, KI6DS
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>

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 14:15:54 -0400
From: tailfeathers@juno.com
To: w6toy@erols.com
Cc: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [97645] Re: Help, I've nothing to build!
Message-ID: <20010504.141555.-387369.4.tailfeathers@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Well... I am a carpenter by trade so I'm gonna have to leave the research and development to you high tech guys. The post was tongue and cheek to some extent. I get some time in the winter and spring when I can buzz through a few of these kits. Like anything else a guy that is in the electronics business probably gets tired of it and maybe you get a charge out of building a bird house. I will probably be too busy in a few weeks to even stay subscribed to the list. To me it's medicine...

Gary

On Fri, 04 May 2001 09:16:57 -0400 Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com> writes:

> Guys,
>
> This posting struck a note with me so I thought I'd make these
> comments.
>
> Contrary to popular opinion we old folks didn't have a hot soldering
> iron
> all the time. We tended to build projects that either enhanced our
> stations or perhaps brought us some other pleasure. The building
> craze
> that is going on in QRP is strange. People do not build to gain a
> newer or
> better piece of station equipment for the most part. Instead they
> all
> build a slightly different variety of the same thing. None of the
> transceivers commonly built have anything that distinguishes them
> from any
> other! Only the K series have significant differences from the
> others.
>
> Relax, you won't be considered less of a QRPer or a man if you don't
> have a
> hot soldering iron on the workbench! Learn all you can about the
> item you
> have already built. How can it be improved. Ask questions of the
> designer
> and the list. Modify it (shock, fear) to do what you think will be
> a
> better design! It's only a piece of homebrew electronics.
> Experience has
> shown that it doesn't have much value beyond its original price.
> Make it
> YOUR rig!
>
> 73
>

>

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<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 10:17:22 -0700

From: "Doug Hendricks" <ki6ds@dph.dpol.net>

To: "Mark J. Dulcey" <mark@buttery.org>

Cc: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [97646] Re: Why do QRPers Build?

Message-ID: <01c0d4be\$14ec9e60\$330b0d0a@doug.dph.dpol.net>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Mark, you are absolutely correct. Dang it, I screwed up for the 12, 347th time. Grin. Thanks for the correction. The error was not intentional.

72, Doug

-----Original Message-----

From: Mark J. Dulcey <mark@buttery.org>

To: ki6ds@dph.dpol.net <ki6ds@dph.dpol.net>

Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Date: Friday, May 04, 2001 11:06 AM

Subject: Re: Why do QRPers Build?

>Doug Hendricks wrote:

>>

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>for the product detector (which is really a mixer with an output at
>audio frequencies), but it doesn't hurt dynamic range at that point in
>the circuit.

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 14:22:25 -0400
From: "Randall M. Payne" <payner1@tnni.net>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [97647] RE: Why do QRPers Build?
Message-ID: <12942001554182225390@tnni.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII

----- Original Message -----

From: schoon@amgt.com
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2001 2:09:37 PM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: RE: Why do QRPers Build?

> <Tongue_In_Cheek>

>

> While I tend to agree that QRPers are prolific builders, what I wonder
> is where can I get extra time in my day to build!! Now, adding 4 more
> hours to the 24 hour day would be an outstanding QRP accomplishment!!

>

> </Tongue_In_Cheek>

>

> 72

>

> .mark

>

Then it wouldn't be a qrp day--you'd have to take 4 hours away to make a
qrp day!

72/73

Randy K4EZM

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 11:29:28 -0700
From: "Phinizy, William" <wphinizy@filenet.com>

To: "'qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU'" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97648] Re: Why do QRPers Build?
Message-ID: <C3AF5E329E21D2119C4C00805F6FF58F04B76F1A@hq-expo2.filenet.com>

Doug,

I don't agree 100% with what you had to say about the kits/projects you cited as examples. But, then again, that's why there is such a great variety of kits available.

But I **totally** agree with your sentiments regarding the demise of Heathkit. Not that they produced an inferior product, but that as long as they were around, there just was not a market where kit vendors could flourish. I used to own an HW-8 (1989-1992) -- and thought it was the bee's elbows. This was prior to the rise of the "NorCal Craze" in the early 90s (like the "running craze" of the 70s?). What got my attention was the NorCal 40 (particularly the line in one review that said the receiver was more sensitive than a Yaesu FT-something or other). Around that time, there were single band kits out for around \$150-200 that sported DC receivers (I didn't even know what a DC receiver was). When I got my first OHR-100A (I am a big fan of them), I was in hog heaven. You could actually make QSOs with them AS FAR AWAY AS THE BAY AREA (500 miles) on 5 watts. I never had that performance from my old HW-8! But, then, I was totally unskilled.

I guess the point is that, without the demise of Heathkit, we may have never really seen the incredible innovation and all-out capitalistic competition that we have today -- and the incredible variety of radios/accessories available. Peering back into an old HW-7, HW-8, or HW-9, I am amazed at how primitive and unsophisticated they were compared to, say, a K1 or K2.

My advice for the gentleman who ran out of kits would be to grab a hunk of PCB, a punch, and start bread boarding (Manhattan-style) a regen or an MRX-40, or a neophyte. Or, as Bruce rightfully pointed out, dig into the kits that you have already built, see how they work, and make them better!

These last eight years have been the most fun I have **ever** had in Ham Radio!

..and the hits just keep on coming!

W. H. Phinizy, K6WHP
Principal Engineer
FileNET Corporation

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 14:48:34 -0400

From: dmaliniak@penton.com
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [97649] Re: Why do QRPers Build?
Message-ID: <0F8B6AC93D.CC5847B4-0N85256A42.00662B36@penton.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

There's plenty of reasons to build, even if you build the same thing, or versions of the same thing, over and over. I go through long periods where I feel more like building than I do operating myself. I build to learn more about building. I build to augment the shack with pieces of equipment I don't have. I build for the therapeutic value, because I find a quiet hour of soldering and trimming leads to be incredibly relaxing. I build because I take great satisfaction and pride in what I end up with. I build so that when it doesn't work (which is too often the case), I can try to figure out why. I build because once my eyes go, I won't be able to anymore. :-)) I build to have something to bring to club meetings for show-and-tell. Mostly, I build because I love it and it's a blast. Every time I complete a project, I look forward to the next one even if I haven't decided what the next one is yet. Maybe some of us are solder fume junkies.

For me, the homebrew aspect of "this thing of ours" is one of the best parts of the whole hobby. If QRPers weren't such avid homebrewers, we wouldn't have most of the QRP clubs, and that sure would be a shame, wouldn't it? QRP is truly the last frontier for homebrewing in Amateur Radio other than the microwave stuff, maybe. We should all be proud that we're keeping one of the best traditions of this great hobby alive and well.

72,
David AD2A
Glen Rock, NJ

Date: Fri, 04 May 2001 13:49:40 -0500
From: "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
To: wphinizy@filenet.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97650] Re: Why do QRPers Build?
Message-ID: <3AF2F9C4.38D9E52B@att.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Good points, William . . .

Makes you wonder what could happen in the software world if M\$ wasn't currently playing the dominant role that Heath did in the radio kit world in the 70's?

Thanks for letting me borrow your metaphor! <:}

72/73, George W5YR - the Yellow Rose of Texas QRP-L 1373 NETXQRP 6

Fairview, TX 30 mi NE of Dallas in Collin county EM13qe
Amateur Radio W5YR, in the 55th year and it just keeps getting better!
Icom IC-756PRO #02121 Kachina #91900556 IC-765 #02437

"Phinizy, William" wrote:

> I guess the point is that, without the demise of Heathkit, we may have never
> really seen the incredible innovation and all-out capitalistic competition
> that we have today -- and the incredible variety of radios/accessories
> available.

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 13:54:10 -0500
From: "Rick Austin" <rick@ltcable.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97651] WTB: Bencher iambic paddle or similar in good condition
Message-ID: <003401c0d4cb\$9cb178e0\$900aa8c0@ISS>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Wanted to buy: a used Bencher iambic paddle. This will be my key to learn on so I would like something in fairly condition. Would like to pay \$35-50 for it.

Thanks,

Rick Austin
KD5LAQ

Date: Fri, 04 May 2001 19:05:45 -0000
From: "Delbert Long" <ad6we@hotmail.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [97652] hw-8 capacitor

Message-ID: <F194ewKlrIcKh8GyUbv00014259@hotmail.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

Outlook isn't good for the hw-8 tuning cap...Anyone out there ever find a substitute anywhere? What is the value of that capacitor?

Del, AD6WE

Get your FREE download of MSN Explorer at <http://explorer.msn.com>

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 10:49:42 -0600 (MDT)
From: mugglesto@ecentral.com
To: Rick Austin <rick@ltcable.com>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97653] Re: Cost/Benefit Analysis of Iambic Paddle
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.10.10105041046510.695-1000000@mugleston.mugs.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Rick and Gang,

I've got my used bencher and I've even got on the air with it but I'd like to get some off the air practice. What would help would be a computer program that I could send to that would try to read what I sent. That way I know if what I'm sending is what I thought I was sending (trying to listen to what I send doesn't seem to help much, I'm not that coordinated).

Any Ideas out there? What's the best way to hook the paddles to the computer (sound card, serial port?)

Brad Mugleston, KI00T
Aurora, Arapahoe Cty, Colorado
DM79oq 39.692500N 104.802600W
CQC #170, QRP-L #316, NorCal #2934

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 13:14:19 -0600
From: "Bruce Kizerian" <kizerian@ced.utah.edu>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97654] Re: Why do QRPers Build?

Message-ID: <002b01c0d4ce\$6bd449c0\$316b6e80@ced.utah.edu>

I work with optics, mechanics, and electronics every day. Sometimes, I have to force myself to work on circuits at home. Besides, there is a lot more competition for my time at home than there is at work.

The satisfaction I get comes from helping young people learn about radio and electronics. The hour or so I spend each day working on the ElmeRadio project is far more important and rewarding than the 8-10 spent working on my employer's projects.

If I spent my free time building stuff just for myself I would soon tire of it and take up golfing or basketweaving or something...

Bruce kk7zz

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 12:15:43 -0700
From: <schoon@amgt.com>
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>, <w5yr@att.net>
Subject: [97655] RE: Why do QRPers Build?
Message-ID: <c=US%a=_%p=American_Geotech%l=AG-CALCITE-BDC-010504191543Z-824@ag-basalt-pxy.amgt.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Sure, M\$ and friends are in the dominate role of computer software right now, just like Heath was back then. After awhile, along came this notion of Open Source software and the likes of Linus Torvalds that created the ultimate homebrewers paradise for software geeks worldwide.... Being one of those geeks myself, it has been nice to be free of the chains that M\$ and friends put on a developer. Now, I can pick the tools for what I need to build, and build to the exact specifications of my desires. QRP is exactly the same way. Don't like a kits performance, then make your own mods. Don't like kits, then grab your junkbox, a punch and build _exactly_ what you want. Open Source is the same - don't like the way some program works?? Go ahead and make your mods, and give it back to the community. Don't like what's currently on the market?? Then roll your own software, the tools are all there. Just add a creative mind and you're set. So, IMHO, QRP leads to a certain amount of freedom that you can't get from the various YAKENCOM radios out there.... Anyone for Open Source Hardware?? Here's the schematic, parts list, etc for a radio, gizmo, antenna, etc.... Parts come and go, so the schematic is changed, some one else mods the circuitboard, etc. All changes are given back to

the QRP community.... This is in simplistic terms, but I think the idea has some merit.... Anyways, back into my hole - thanks for the bandwidth.

72

.mark

>-----
>From: George, W5YR[SMTP:w5yr@att.net]
>Sent: Friday, May 04, 2001 11:49 AM
>To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
>Subject: Re: Why do QRPers Build?
>
>Good points, William . . .
>
>Makes you wonder what could happen in the software world if M\$ wasn't
>currently playing the dominant role that Heath did in the radio kit world
>in the 70's?
>
>Thanks for letting me borrow your metaphor! <:}
>
>72/73, George W5YR - the Yellow Rose of Texas QRP-L 1373 NETXQRP 6

>Fairview, TX 30 mi NE of Dallas in Collin county EM13qe
>Amateur Radio W5YR, in the 55th year and it just keeps getting better!
>Icom IC-756PRO #02121 Kachina #91900556 IC-765 #02437
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>> that we have today -- and the incredible variety of radios/accessories
>> available.
>
>
>

Date: Fri, 04 May 2001 15:26:47 -0400
From: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
To: mugglesto@ecentral.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [97656] Re: Cost/Benefit Analysis of Iambic Paddle

Message-ID: <3AF30277.382E31F2@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Brad,

I understand what you want to do, and there are several computer programs that can read your CW, or so I have seen, BUT, remember that the best CW sending comes from careful recognition of good SENT CW! The computer, while it can adjust to decoding your sending is really a poor judge of your rhythm. I think you would be better off, and spend less money, by copying W1AW's code practice sessions and sending along with them!

73

Date: Fri, 04 May 2001 15:31:02 -0400
From: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
To: ki6ds@dph.dpol.net
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [97657] Re: Why do QRPers Build?
Message-ID: <3AF30376.5B67E682@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Doug,

You could have copied me directly on this. Contrary to popular opinion I do not have your email address blocked.

Now, I specifically did not mention the K1 and K2. They are different, and so are the digital mode radios. What I was addressing specifically were the SMK-1's, the MRX 40's and such like. Granted building one is an interesting experience. But to build them all? I just don't think there is enough difference among the low end radios.

Now I will admit that I might be getting old. It will happen to you too Doug. You will start to see some of this as fooishness. But it will happen in its own time for you!

73

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 15:49:36 -0400
From: "Brian" <bmurrey@amexol.net>
To: <schoon@amgt.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97658] Re: Why do QRPers Build?
Message-ID: <001501c0d4d3\$5a471610\$3d05080a@cincom.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I agree, Linux is the best amateur operating system ever. Open source software is the best thing to ever happen to amateur programmers. No argument at all.

72

----- Original Message -----

From: <schoon@amgt.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2001 3:15 PM
Subject: RE: Why do QRPers Build?

> Sure, M\$ and friends are in the dominate role of computer software right
> now, just like Heath was back then. After awhile, along came this notion
> of Open Source software and the likes of Linus Torvalds that created the
> ultimate homebrewers paradise for software geeks worldwide.... Being one
> of those geeks myself, it has been nice to be free of the chains that M\$
> and friends put on a developer. Now, I can pick the tools for what I
> need to build, and build to the exact specifications of my desires. QRP
> is exactly the same way. Don't like a kits performance, then make your
> own mods. Don't like kits, then grab your junkbox, a punch and build
> _exactly_ what you want. Open Source is the same - don't like the way
> some program works?? Go ahead and make your mods, and give it back to
> the community. Don't like what's currently on the market?? Then roll
> your own software, the tools are all there. Just add a creative mind and
> you're set. So, IMHO, QRP leads to a certain amount of freedom that you
> can't get from the various YAKENCOM radios out there.... Anyone for Open
> Source Hardware?? Here's the schematic, parts list, etc for a radio,
> gizmo, antenna, etc.... Parts come and go, so the schematic is changed,
> some one else mods the circuitboard, etc. All changes are given back to
> the QRP community.... This is in simplistic terms, but I think the idea
> has some merit.... Anyways, back into my hole - thanks for the
> bandwidth.

>

> 72

>

> .mark
>
> >-----
> >From: George, W5YR[SMTP:w5yr@att.net]
> >Sent: Friday, May 04, 2001 11:49 AM
> >To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
> >Subject: Re: Why do QRPers Build?
> >
> >Good points, William . . .
> >
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> >Amateur Radio W5YR, in the 55th year and it just keeps getting better!
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> >> that we have today -- and the incredible variety of radios/accessories
> >> available.
> >
> >
> >
>
>

Date: Fri, 04 May 2001 15:50:18 -0400
From: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
To: talljazz@teleport.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [97659] Re: Help, I've nothing to build!
Message-ID: <3AF307FA.4DE05AD7@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Guys,

Again you misunderstood what I said. Since I also often do this I guess it comes from reading eh first sentence and jumping to a reply!

I don't think the building craze is necessarily bad. If you had read what I said you would know the problem I have is with the commonality in most small radios. I specifically did not address the K1 and K2. They seem to be a breed apart, but they are not the same as the SMK-1, or the NorCal 38. I have been taken to task over the issue of the NorCal 40, the SSt, and some other radio. I think they are the same, more or less. There ain't a whiskers worth of difference in receiver sensitivity or selectivity.

I understand you guys read the product reviews. Perhaps the NorCal 40 was more sensitive than the Yaesu FT something or other, but does it have the same quality of selectivity? Reading about one performance indicator is not the whole story! A receiver is made up of a lot of performance specs, any one taken alone is not very important.

Sorry you guys all think I am an old fa*rt with an axe to grind. Really I am trying to keep some of you from making the same mistakes I made and spending the same money I did. If you cannot find something that will add to your station to build, try looking around in the boatanchor market. You will find many piece of older gear that need help. An ideal way to satisfy your urge to melt solder!

73

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 15:51:32 -0400 (EDT)
From: "Paul R. Valko" <prvalko@oakland.edu>
To: NOBN@aol.com
Cc: QRP List <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [97660] Portable and Mobile and Bears OH MY!
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.4.21.0105041536030.4154-100000@saturn4.acs.oakland.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

I'll take a crack at this...

Maritime Mobile is supposed to mean that a station is located in International waters. We hear a lot of clowns puttering around in Lake St. Clair and announce (over our 2M repeater!) that they are maritime

mobile. I might be wrong but aeronautical mobile was supposed to be the same thing - international airspace.

The FCC got rid of the rule requiring that we announce whether we were portable or mobile (including the call district you were in) several years ago. So actually, the point is moot and a waste of time and breath.

In my limited understanding, portible means you are operating at a fixed location (with a "fixed" antenna, I guess) but that you are away from the location of your fixed station licence.

Incredibly, there has been a lot of silliness lately regarding announcing that you are pedestrian mobile, bicycle mobile, etc., when stations give their ID.

But it's just a hobby :-)) so let the silliness go and have fun.

So this is W8KC in the mobile saying very best seventy threes to you and yours and I hope to see you further down the page until the next time we talk have a great day and seventy threes all around. Sign me out I'm clear.

73! =paul= W8KC

Collector of Ten*Tecs and other fine plastics.

Visit the Virtual Ten*Tec Museum at:

<<http://www.acs.oakland.edu/~prvalko>>

Date: Fri, 04 May 2001 15:07:39 -0500
From: Gary Wilcox <rgwilcox@bellsouth.net>
To: hubby2k@hotmail.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97661] Re: N8we Maritime Mobile or Portable?
Message-ID: <3AF30C0B.45F4E434@bellsouth.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I've heard "Marine Mobile" used on the Maritime Mobile Services net to describe a boat that isn't in international waters

73's Gary

Mike WA8BXN wrote:

> Maritime Mobile to my understanding requires you to be in international
> waters. So its probably just mobile or portable. If you are stopped at a
> traffic light in a car I think you are still considered mobile. If he is
> capable of motion if he untied from a dock, I would call it mobile. In any
> event I would call it fun!

>

> 72/73 - Mike WA8BXN

>

> _____

> Get your FREE download of MSN Explorer at <http://explorer.msn.com>

--

Gary Wilcox CCNA
rgwilcox@bellsouth.net

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 16:11:28 -0400
From: "Charles Mabbott" <crmabbott@mediaone.net>
To: <N0BN@aol.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97662] RE: N8we Maritime Mobile or Portable?
Message-ID: <GAECLOGOMILPLBGKKPEGEEIECHAA.crmabbott@mediaone.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

It would seem when your in a car you are mobile,
when you are setup in a field you are portable,
so it stands to reason in a boat [floating as
opposed to sunk] you are maritime mobile.
On the otherhand I imagine a submarine is
maritime mobile to.

Just my .02
73,
Chuck AA8VS

Date: Fri, 04 May 2001 15:16:57 -0500

From: "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
To: crmabbott@mediaone.net
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97663] Re: N8we Maritime Mobile or Portable?
Message-ID: <3AF30E39.E3BB5BD6@att.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Maybe the missing key word here is "marine" rather than "maritime."

I seem to recall that "maritime" has connotations and legal meanings in the real sea-going world. I suspect that "marine" is somewhat more generic and broad in its meaning and applicability.

To me, a rig in a boat on a lake could be reasonably described as "marine mobile" although, like others, I really don't understand the need to make such distinctions. When you work someone, tell 'em you are in a boat in Lake Whossis, but no need to tack "marine mobile" onto the call sign (?).
<:}

72/73, George W5YR - the Yellow Rose of Texas QRP-L 1373 NETXQRP 6

Fairview, TX 30 mi NE of Dallas in Collin county EM13qe
Amateur Radio W5YR, in the 55th year and it just keeps getting better!
Icom IC-756PRO #02121 Kachina #91900556 IC-765 #02437

Charles Mabbott wrote:

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> when you are setup in a field you are portable,
> so it stands to reason in a boat [floating as
> opposed to sunk] you are maritime mobile.
> On the otherhand I imagine a submarine is
> maritime mobile to.

Date: Fri, 04 May 2001 16:24:03 -0400
From: Paul Womble <pwomble1@tampabay.rr.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97664] Re: Maritime Mobile or Portable?
Message-ID: <3AF30FE3.2B3E8EA9@tampabay.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

For US hams In the US, signing as "mobile" or "portable four" etc are not necessary today. In years past it was a requirement. I guess old habits are hard to break.

> When you work someone, tell 'em you are in a boat in
> Lake Whossis, but no need to tack "marine mobile" onto the call sign (?).
> <:}

I do admit to signing "marine mobile" while driving on some flooded streets in the past however :-)

Paul K4FB

Date: Fri, 04 May 2001 20:27:45 +0100
From: Larry Cahoon <lejek@erols.com>
To: Bill Coleman <aa4lr@arrl.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [97665] Re: tiny 9-V transceivers?
Message-ID: <5.0.2.1.0.20010504202519.009f6930@pop.erols.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

At 09:53 AM 05/04/01 -0400, Bill Coleman wrote:

> >The K1 will do it. Check out my web site for a list of QSOs worked with
> >the K1 and a 9 volt NiMH battery. 31 states worked so far. Look under the
> >K1 - 9 volt battery link off the main page.
>
>How many states do you get per 9V battery?

I have two of the 9 volt NiMH batteries I swap out. I think the best so far is 4 or 5 quick QSOs before the battery had to be recharged. That was in the Spartan sprint last month. All 31 states have been worked off the same two batteries.

73 de Larry.....WD3P in MD
<http://www.qsl.net/wd3p>

Date: Fri, 04 May 2001 14:37:02 -0600
From: "Carlos Caro" <cjcaro35@hotmail.com>

To: harris_k@crane.navy.mil, qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [97666] Re: the \$2 gallon
Message-ID: <F509ny7BXx4XFKpRcTC00000f4d@hotmail.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

BOYCOTT !!

Pick a brand of Gasoline in your city/town and get as many people to stop buying that brand. If enough do it, the company will feel the lose of revenue and hopefully lower prices. Then every body switch to that brand and boycott the others. Sooner or later they will get the hint. I only buy 8-9 gallons at a time instead of filling up my Explorer.

Regards,

Carlos KBØREI

Get your FREE download of MSN Explorer at <http://explorer.msn.com>

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 15:48:25 -0500
From: Nick Kennedy <nkennedy@tcainternet.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97667] RE: Help, I've nothing to build!
Message-ID: <01C0D4B1.A888A040.nkennedy@tcainternet.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I wish I had the restraint that would allow me to ge to the point where I have nothing to build. My problem is the opposite, there are too many neat things I want to build and I plan more than I've got time to take on.

Currently waiting their turn:

"The Microwatter" very low power wattmeter.
Steven Weber microprocessor based CW keyer with readout & keyboard capability
A step attenuator
VE3DNL marker generator
Flying Pigs PLL Synthesizer
A "regular" QPR wattmeter (the design that became the WM-2)
Spud Gun antenna launching technology
Steven Weber "Curiously Strong" class AB 10 watt linear amp

Needs fixing, modifying:

Ugly Weekend / R1 needs an RIT
2N2/40 needs a redesigned output filter for 5 watts

Help, I've got too much to build!

72--Nick, WA5BDU

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 15:58:42 -0500
From: "Jay Bromley" <w5jay@alltel.net>
To: <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Cc: "William Winnscott" <n6cha@ipa.net>, "Steve Lowrey" <snlowrey@alltel.net>, "Stan Ross" <slross@cox-internet.com>, "Royce Rainwater" <ke5tc@crosstel.net>, "Ronald M. Kupers" <w5xq@arrl.net>, "Richard Donovan" <n5xm@alltel.net>, "Randy Holden" <Randy_Holden@hotmail.com>, "Randy Baggett" <kg5ne@cei.net>,
Subject: [97668] RE: Tuna Tin II: JayBob has his act together--Thanks Uncle Brucie!!
Message-ID: <008801c0d4dd\$03ff5560\$179b66a6@alltel.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

QRP-L Gang hi,

Just a quick note on the Tuna Tin kit being offered by the Fort Smith QRP Group. We are waiting on are the boards and when they come in we will start shipping ASAP. Please be patience as the boards will be trickling in. The supplier is getting ready for Dayton so delays may or may not be longer than anticipated. Many thanks and 73 de w5jay..

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 15:05:12 -0600 (MDT)
From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
To: <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [97669] QRPTTF Pictures
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.33.0105041502400.2583-100000@localhost.localdomain>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

I have put some of the pictures I took of our site and setup on my web page at:

www.qsl.net/k5di

Just click on QRPTTF at the bottom of the page. Takes awhile to load with all the pictures.

--

Yours Truly,

- Karl F. Larsen, k5di@arrl.net (505) 524-3303 -

Date: Fri, 04 May 2001 14:07:05 -0700
From: Brian Kassel <bkassel@dancris.com>
To: QRP-L <QRP-L@lehigh.edu>, azqrp <azqrp@extremezone.com>
Subject: [97670] Contest: QRPDUPE CQ WPX Version Posted
Message-ID: <3AF319F9.CEEE594A@dancris.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gangue:

The latest version of QRPDUPE. which includes the CQ WPX contest, to be held on the weekend of 5-26, has been posted to my WEB site at:

<http://www.dancris.com/~bkassel/index.htm#top>

The scoring for this event was amazingly complex, and required quite a bit of programming. I suggest that all users who intend to operate this contest, give the program a good dry run. I did as much testing as time allowed, but there still might be a minor glitch. Especially try to enter as many DX call signs as possible.

As always, the program is entirely free, easy to install and uninstall, and includes documentation on how to use and operate it. It includes the ability to send CW in step with the exchange and logging process.

If there are any problems that are identified, please let me know ASAP so that I may post any modifications or corrections to the WEB site for all to download well before the contest occurs.

Now on to the ARRL June VHF/UHF contest and a few more suggested features...

Brian K7RE

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 17:07:13 EDT
From: PTSMANTUA@aol.com
To: RD130947@exchange.daytonoh.ncr.com, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [97671] Snipe Hunt Results - KF8JW
Message-ID: <b7.dd5662c.28247401@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Ron, Jim, et all.

Had a blast calling CQ snipe last weekend from Camp Stigwandish Boy Scout Camp in Madison Ohio.

Campfire, Marshmallows, Roasted Deer, a pile of young scouts mezmorized by the tones of CW, and asking enough questions to interrupt the CQ'ing, at the Picnic table, next to the fire in the site, overhanging a small creek.

Working a few contest stations, and had a great QSO earlier in the day with N2GWT - Fabio in NY. Didn't work a lot, as Scouts and My Scouts (Matt and Jason) came first.

Ran 2W with a Norcal 40A into a short dipole in the tree's up as far as I could throw a rock.

Lessons learned include;

- 1> Pack lite, Scout Camp is walk it in walk it out.
- 2> Arrive Early- We had to wait for Mom to arrive Home Friday Night, and as a result arrived at Camp after midnight.
- 3> Confirm the Camp Map before midnight, Flashlights, and a strange camp allow for waking up a hole bunch of folks before you find YOUR group.
- 4> Use a quiet Wagon. The Troop agreed to purchase our step 2 model (Plastic Wheels) make a tremendous racket at 1 AM on a gravel road. Purchase dependent upon our agreement never to bring it near a Camp again (Grin).
- 5> Pack Warm, 22 Degree's in aderondacks with cubscouts is pushing the limits.
- 6> After calling CQ Snipe for about an hour without a reply, answer questions about the radio, remember your first Snipe Hunt at camp....(they did come to your rescue after holding that silly bag didn't they?)

7> Where a glove. Ice forms on the Key after midnight.
8> Use a easy writing clipboard thing....kids drawing board was way cool.
9> Remember the reason your doing it is not for you, but for the young scouts.
10> Graciously thank all who find you and rescue you by providing that elusive SNIPE capture.

73's

de
Phil

KF8JW

Date: Fri, 04 May 2001 21:09:35
From: "laura halliday" <marsgal42@hotmail.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [97672] Re: [97540] RE: DDS VFO instead of a crystal
Message-ID: <F1259IJsaJbqJGNzscE00002631@hotmail.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

Dan Tayloe N7VE wrote:

>(snip...)
>I say all of this to keep folks from getting to excited
>about the DDS chips that are on the market. It might be
>different if they had 24 bit Digital to Analog converter
>(-118 db down spurs? - extremely unlikely!) rather than
>the 10 to 12 bits (spurs -80 db down?) currently used now.

I see this as the Magic Bullet syndrome - something is new and trendy, and suddenly becomes the answer to all our problems. We've seen it before (e.g. dual-gate MOSFETs), and we'll see it in the future too.

If one of the current chips solves your particular problem, it *is* something to get excited over. But the current chips aren't the solution to all our RF generation ills - nobody ever claimed they were.

I favour DDS for highly-reproduceable spot frequencies. For general HF use, a solidly executed LC VFO is still hard to beat.

Laura Halliday VE7LDH "Que les nuages soient notre

pied a terre..."

Get Your Private, Free E-mail from MSN Hotmail at <http://www.hotmail.com>.

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 14:17:16 -0700
From: "Eric Swartz - WA6HHQ, Elecraft" <eric@elecraft.com>
To: <ki6ds@dph.dpol.net>, <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [97673] Re: Why do QRPers Build? <K2>
Message-ID: <000301c0d4df\$9e9d2c30\$6401a8c0@erics866>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Doug,

Thanks for the positive comments. I'd like to make a couple of minor corrections to your posting (excerpted below).

1. The K2 uses a diode mixer (a 'Real Mixer' as you noted later in your posting) for its front end, not a '602. That's part of the reason the K2 has such a high dynamic range on RX. The only places we use 602's in the K2 are in the low level stages like the product detector, which is protected by the AGC circuits from overload.
2. The K2, at under 130 mA (Battery mode), has the lowest receive current drain of any 'All Band' HF transceiver by several times.
3. While we have received great reviews of the K2's RX performance, it also excels in its user interface (ergonomics), built in test equipment, TX CW waveform, clean and punchy SSB audio, top notch noise blanker and overall mechanical design (ruggedness and fit).
4. We have also broken new ground with our customer service and product manuals.

Plus its fun to build and modify :^)

Of course I'm biased a bit....

73, Eric WA6HHQ
<http://www.elecrafter.com>

=====

Doug wrote:

I will start with the K2, I built one, and it has a lot of neat features,
is a very good kit....
.. To be able to produce a kit that looks like a commercial product is pretty neat. But, the K2 uses NE602 technology. It has excellent filters. But significant differences from the other rigs??? No, I don't think so. Works great, but I really don't feel that it broke any new ground other than one very important feature. It raised the standard as far as receiver performance goes to a couple of new levels.

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 17:32:52 -0400
From: "Don Wilhelm" <w3fpr@arrl.net>
To: <w6toy@erols.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97674] Re: Help, I've nothing to build!
Message-ID: <00f301c0d4e1\$cf24cf00\$ec103604@dbw11main>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Bruce,

I too see that everyone is building the same thing, and so many of the things that we build together are quite similar.

I have ventured out on my own with my own designs all my life, some of them were successes and many were flops - you win some, you lose some, but what I gained along the way was a lot of good experience.

BUT, when I started all this, I built something that someone else had designed, and that gave me confidence to try a variation on my own.

That was back in the days when you punched holes in a chassis and mounted tube sockets then put in the other components. Later, I built tube kits too, and modified them to meet my desires.

Then along came printed circuit boards - with etched PC boards it is more

difficult to modify a design and stay within the confines of the original PC board - besides, the components needed for a PC board based design must be close to the originally designed form factor. IMHO, though PC boards make duplication of the design easier, it makes incentive to modify smaller.

I believe that the recent popularity of the Manhattan construction will allow the builder greater freedom to experiment with modifications and entirely new designs. I have been overjoyed with the possibilities myself, I have been able to experiment with more liberty on complex designs, and I am enjoying my experimenting again. I find it easier than wire wrap, less sloppy than a modified etched PC board, and quite reliable for HF circuits to boot.

Perhaps there is hope for a new wave, and the MH101 project may get it started. There are many folks who just want to get their feet wet with something that they have built, and that is fine - I will help them to the best of my ability, but there may be a few of that group who go on to fame and glory by branching out on their own in some previously unknown direction. Each to his own, based on his personal preferences and prior experience.

73 and good building,
Don Wilhelm -Chapel Hill, NC W3FPR home page: <http://www.qsl.net/w3fpr/>
QRP-L # 485 K2 SN 0020 mailto: w3fpr@arrl.net

----- Original Message -----

From: "Bruce Muscolino" <w6toy@erols.com>

> ... The building craze

> that is going on in QRP is strange. People do not build to gain a newer or

> better piece of station equipment for the most part. Instead they all

> build a slightly different variety of the same thing. None of the

> transceivers commonly built have anything that distinguishes them from any
> other! Only the K series have significant differences from the others.

>

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 15:55:18 -0600 (CST)

From: Bruce Rattray <rattray@gpfn.sk.ca>

To: <schoon@amgt.com>

Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [97675] RE: Why do QRPers Build?

Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.33.0105041553590.31775-100000@neale.gpfn.sk.ca>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

HI Mark et al....my father Andy, VE30IA (SK), after he retired, used to say he needed 8 days in the week and 25 hours a day..... ;-))

..72/73 - Bruce (VE5RC+VE5QRP) QRP-C#1 QRP-L#886 ARCI#9683 Zombie#272
K2#2032 A-1 Operator Club - 10/10# 944 - SOC #11 & #12 - Whiner#10 -
"QRP! How sweet it is!" oo#148 "I am da man wit "DAH" paddle!"

On Fri, 4 May 2001 schoon@amgt.com wrote:

```
> <Tongue_In_Cheek>
>
> While I tend to agree that QRPers are prolific builders, what I wonder
> is where can I get extra time in my day to build!! Now, adding 4 more
> hours to the 24 hour day would be an outstanding QRP accomplishment!!
>
> </Tongue_In_Cheek>
>
> 72
>
> .mark
>
>
> >-----
> >From: Doug Hendricks[SMTP:ki6ds@dph.dpol.net]
> >Sent: Friday, May 04, 2001 9:54 AM
> >To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
> >Subject: Why do QRPers Build?
> >
> >Bruce Muscolino posted to the list that he did not think that there was any
> >significant difference in the things that people build. To make sure that I
> >get it right, here is a copy of part of his post:
> >
> >"People do not build to gain a newer or
> >better piece of station equipment for the most part. Instead they all
> >build a slightly different variety of the same thing. None of the
> >transceivers commonly built have anything that distinguishes them from any
> >other! Only the K series have significant differences from the others."
> >
> >Well Bruce, I disagree. Let's look at what some of the guys have built in
> >the last few years.
> >
> >I will start with the K2, I built one, and it has a lot of neat features,
> >is a very good kit. It has the look and feel of a commercial rice box (not
> >intended as a demeaning comment, K2 Groupies). Actually that is a
> >compliment. To be able to produce a kit that looks like a commercial
> >product is pretty neat. But, the K2 uses NE602 technology. It has
> >excellent filters. But significant differences from the other rigs??? No, I
```

> >don't think so. Works great, but I really don't feel that it broke any new
> >ground other than one very important feature. It raised the standard as far
> >as receiver performance goes to a couple of new levels.
> >
> >Next let's go with the NorCal 20/Red Hot 20. This radio was designed to be
> >used in Europe, not the US. Thus, it used a "real mixer" not a 602. No
> >reflection on 602 radios, just that it was designed to be "crunch proof",
> >and it is. Did it break significant ground? No, I don't think so. It did
> >have a built in keyer, and built in frequency annunciator. Easily runs 5
> >watts. Great Receiver. Fun kit to build.
> >
> >Now the SWL DSW Series. Did this one break new ground? You betcha. This
> >one featured a surface mount digital IC and a whole new world opened up as
> >far as VFO's go. Dave Benson can't kit these fast enough. The chip is
> >hard to get, but when he gets a supply in, the kits fly out the door. Great
> >rig, neat features, and a DDS VFO built in!!
> >
> >Next from the same guy, Dave Benson came the PSK20. Whoa, this is a whole
> >new mode to qrpers. Cheap too. I gotta say that this one definitely broke
> >new ground. When you add the huge number of PSK80's sold by the NJ QRP
> >Club, you know what I am talking about when I say that this broke new
> >ground.
> >
> >The K1. This is a nice kit. Dual bander. Packaged really well, but I
> >think it is more of an optimized Sierra than a new design. Great little
> >radio for taking car camping. Battery friendly (as long as you don't use
> >the speaker).
> >
> >The SMK-1. Another NorCal kit. This one definitely breaks new ground as
> >far as a proving that anyone can build a surface mount kit. We had a few
> >kits out that used surface mount parts, but this was the first one that used
> >more than a handfull of parts. The packaging of the parts was even
> >innovative. Naysayers on the list said that hams would never be able to
> >build using surface mount parts. The SMK-1 disproved that theory
> >convincingly.
> >
> >The R2/T2 kits. Excellent performance. Kits are sold by Kanga US. They
> >have a new model coming I am told. Uses a DC receiver, but singal signal
> >reception. Definitely not the same as the rest of the kits.
> >
> >Sheldon Hands has an excellent all band transceiver that does not get much
> >attention here in the US, but it is an excellent radio, and again, uses a
> >real mixer instead of the NE602.
> >
> >Finally, I would close with Jim Kortge's contribution. He popularized
> >Manhattan construction more than anyone else that I know of. He has
> >written articles, given presentations at QRP Forums, and taught literally
> >thousands of hams how to build from a schematic in an easy to do way. A

> >2N2222 radio design by Kortge is significantly different than a NorCal kit,
> >or a K2, or a Red Hot Radio. Why? Because of its simplicity and
> >reproducible design that anyone can do without a pcboard. Jim Kortge opened
> >up a whole new world to builders.
> >
> >So Bruce, I say to you that I disagree. I think that builders today are
> >learning tons of things. I can see why people love to build. Because they
> >learn new skills when they build. Are the kits the guys are building all
> >the same? Heavens no. Look at the list above: K2, NC20, SWL DSW, PSK20,
> >R2/T2, Hands Transceiver, Kortge's Manhattan stuff. All are radios, but
> >all have their own very unique features. Thank goodness for the demise of
> >Heathkit. 72, Doug, KI6DS
> >
> >
> >
> >
>

Date: Fri, 4 May 2001 17:22:28 -0500
From: "Brian Murrey" <bmmurrey@amexol.net>
To: <PTSMANTUA@aol.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [97676] Re: Snipe Hunt Results - KF8JW
Message-ID: <003a01c0d4e8\$b54e90a0\$78492bd1@iquest.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Phil,

I love scout camping and ham radio.

Check out my frozen adventure in January.

<http://www.fpqrp.com/bb0401.pdf>

That's the story from the Flying Pigs QRP Club newsletter....talk about
COLD!!

----- Original Message -----

From: <PTSMANTUA@aol.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2001 4:07 PM
Subject: Snipe Hunt Results - KF8JW

> Ron, Jim, et all.
>
> Had a blast calling CQ snipe last weekend from Camp Stigwandish Boy Scout
> Camp in Madison Ohio.
>
> Campfire, Marshmallows, Roasted Deer, a pile of young scouts mezmorized by
> the tones of CW, and asking enough questions to interupt the CQ'ing, at
the
> Picnic table, next to the fire in the site, overhanging a small creek.
>
> Working a few contest stations, and had a great QSO earlier in the day
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> N2GWT - Fabio in NY. Didn't work a lot, as Scouts and My Scouts (Matt and
> Jason) came first.
>
> Ran 2W with a Norcal 40A into a short dipole in the tree's up as far as I
> could throw a rock.
>
> Lessons learned include;
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> 1> Pack lite, Scout Camp is walk it in walk it out.
> 2> Arrive Early- We had to wait for Mom to arrive Home Friday Night, and
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> a result arrived at Camp after midnight.
> 3> Confirm the Camp Map before midnight, Flashlights, and a strange camp
> allow for waking up a hole bunch of folks before you find YOUR group.
> 4> Use a quiet Wagon. The Troop agreed to purchase our step 2 model
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> Wheels) make a tremendous racket at 1 AM on a gravel road. Purchase
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> upon our agreement never to bring it near a Camp again (Grin).
> 5> Pack Warm, 22 Degree's in aderondacks with cubscouts is pushing the
> limits.
> 6> After calling CQ Snipe for about an hour without a reply, answer
> questions about the radio, remember your first Snipe Hunt at camp....(they
> did come to your rescue after holding that silly bag didn't they?)
> 7> Where a glove. Ice forms on the Key after midnight.
> 8> Use a easy writing clipboard thing....kids drawing board was way cool.
> 9> Remember the reason your doing it is not for you, but for the young
> scouts.
> 10> Graciously thank all who find you and rescue you by providing that
> elusive SNIPE capture.
>
> 73's
>
> de
> Phil

>
> KF8JW
>

End of QRP-L Digest 2179

